MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

13 NOVEMBER 1981

Autonomy Talks

At the end of the ministerial-level Palestinian autonomy talks in Cairo, Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali read a final statement on the points of agreement among the participating delegations. Reporting on the statement, Cairo radio said it reiterated the parties' adherence to the Camp David agreement as the only path to peace in the Middle East and their determination to continue the negotiations. The radio said they continued to work toward agreement on a declaration of principles and understanding, which will help to create practical measures for the transitional phase. MENA reported that after 'Ali read the statement he and Israeli delegation head Yosef Burg, the Israeli interior minister, held a press conference. 'Ali said the talks focused on the powers and responsibilities of the proposed autonomy administrative council, but that "there is still a gap between us." Asked if there is a target date for completion of the talks, both 'Ali and Burg agreed that while there is a goal, there is no set date for achieving it. 'Ali explained that no declaration of principles and understanding had beer made because there is continued disagreement over "certain main points." Burg acknowledged that while some progress has been made in certain areas, there has been none in others, adding, however, that "we have become more aware of our points of difference."

A Jerusalem radio report said the latest round of the autonomy talks had resulted in no progress.

According to the radio, earlier in the day Egyptian President Husni Mubarak met with the Israeli negotiating team for a little less than an hour. Afterward, Mubarak told newsmen that he will visit Israel next year, MENA reported. Jersualem radio said that during the meeting the president repeated several times that he has "taken note" of Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's recent statement that Israel has made all the concessions it can.

Egypt

Indictment of Plotters -- MENA transmitted the text of the indictment released by the military prosecutor against 24 persons involved in the 6 October assassination of President Anwar as-Sadat. The document notes that the various offenses call for the death sentence.

Charges of Prison Deaths; Hunger Strike -- AFP reported that three Muslim fundamentalists arrested last month after the assassination of President as-Sadat have died under torture, according to allegations by their relatives. AFP noted that a senior Interior Ministry official dismissed the allegations as baseless and also denied a charge by the Muslim Brotherhood this week that an editor of the organization's magazine, Kamal as-Sananiri, arrested during the September purge, died on 9 November in a prison near Cairo.

AFP also reported that in the same prison other prisoners held in connection with the As-Sadat assination have entered the eighth day of a hunger strike protesting the legal and physical conditions of their detention.

Israel

Arens Remarks -- Jerusalem radio reported that Israeli officials described as a "storm in a teacup" the furor over MK Moshe Arens' remarks in Washington that the Saudi peace plan is a "step ahead." In a statement to the radio, Arens said his remarks had been misinterpreted, adding that he had said that "extremist" Arab states are trying to create an impression of moderation through vague, albeit new, statements. The radio's Arabic service also broadcast a statement by Arens in which he said the Saudi peace plan goes "a little ways in the right direction, but a long ways from making Saudi Arabia a partner for peace negotiations with Israel."

According to Jerusalem radio, Prime Minister Menahem Begin's office believes Arens' remarks were a slip of the tongue. Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir said that, if Arens made the statement attributed to him, his candidacy for the post of ambassador to the United States should be reconsidered.

West Bank Disturbances -- IDF radio reported that the military authorities have decided to close Bi'r Zayt University for 2 months. The radio noted further Palestinian demonstrations the morning of 12 November in Janin, Nabulus, Hebron, east Jerusalem and near Bethlehem. According to another IDF radio report, the defense establishment hopes to quell the disturbances by a "firm hand." "The stamp of Ari'el Sharon is noticeable in recent events in Judaea and Samaria," the radio added.

PLO

'Arafat on Fahd Plan -- KUNA reported that in an interview with the Kuwaiti paper AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM, PLO Executive Chairman Yasir 'Arafat noted that he welcomed Saudi Crown Prince Fahd's peace plan but added that the PLO has reservations about it.

Military Delegation to Hungary, GDR -- The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio reported that a Palestinian military delegation arrived in Budapest for military talks with Hungarian officials. The delegation will also hold talks in the GDR.

Libya

Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland radio reported that a People's Foreign Liaison Bureau "source" had rejected Alexander Haig's statement that Libya might have been behind the attempted assassination of the U.S. charge d'affaires in Paris on 12 November. The source dismissed Haig's remarks as part of a U.S. "campaign of terrorism" against Libya, adding that Libya "could not resort to assassination as a political means."

Gulf Affairs

GCC Economic Agreement -- KUNA reported that Kuwaiti Finance and Planning Minister 'Abd al-Latif Yusuf al-Hamad said the economic agreement signed by Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) leaders in Riyadh on 11 November will provide a comprehensive framework for economic relations among GCC members. The agreement binds the GCC in a parallel and complementary manner, he said, automatically dissolving previous bilateral agreements. Among other things, it calls for coordination of oil industry policies.

Soviet Official on Gulf -- QNA reported that the Soviet ambassador to Kuwait told the local newspaper AL-QABAS that the Soviet view on Gulf security is identical with the Kuwaiti view.

Iran

Security Situation -- Tehran radio reported that Abolfaz Qasemi, secretary general of the Iran Party, was sentenced to life imprisonment by an Islamic revolution tribunal. Qasemi was charged with collaborating with SAVAK and former Prime Minister Shapur Bakhtiar. Meanwhile, PARS reported that 23 dissidents were executed in various provinces on 9 and 10 November and that 71 oppositionists were arrested in Lorestan, Mazandaran and Gilan in recent days. PARS also reported that Kurdish rebels killed two civilians and wounded seven others in Saqqez on 10 November. Citing a Revolution Guards Corps statement, Tehran radio noted that on the same day security forces killed nine Kurdish rebels in a shootout near Sanandaj.

Plan To Close Strait -- The London magazine AL-MAJALLAH, citing "informed diplomatic sources," reported that Iran has formulated a plan to close the Strait of Hormuz to international shipping in order to focus attention on the Iran-Iraq war. Although the Iranians have complied with Algerian advice not to proceed with the plan, AL-MAJALLAH said, they could still embark on the closure if the war with Iraq escalates.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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PLO REITERATES REJECTION OF ISRAEL, CAMP DAVID

JN111748 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 11 Nov 81

[Text] PLO official spokesman 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar has reiterated the Palestinian Arab people's commitment to the Palestine National Council's resolutions, which reject any settlement that stems from UN Resolution 242 which reneges on the Palestinians' national and inalienable rights, rights which are considered the core of the Arab-Zionist dispute.

At a press conference in Damascus this afternoon, Abu Mayzar said that the PLO, while reiterating this clear stand, will continue, supported by the Arab nation and the world forces of liberation, to confront the schemes and agreements of Camp David and its parties and any other complementary solutions to these agreements or any attempt to rid the Camp David parties of their isolation.

Abu Mayzar also refuted the recent claims and statements by UK Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in which she accused the PLO of being connected with terrorism. Abu Mayzar stressed that these statements clearly reveal the black hatred of the British Government for the struggle of the peoples for their freedom and national independence, particularly the struggle of our Palestinian people for their usurped rights. These claims are also a blatant attempt by Mrs Thatcher to harm the PLO's reputation, whose status is becoming more solid in international quarters and forums.

The PLO official spokesman said that the PLO reiterates its respect for international legitimacy, its condemnation of terrorism; namely, the terrorism which Israel is practicing in NATO circles, with the backing of the United States and hostile quarters.

Abu Mayzar denounced the statements which are being made in Western capitals calling on the PLO to recognize the racist and Zionist entity of settlers which is occupying Arab territory. He stressed that the objective of these statements is an attempt to liquidate the Palestinian cause.

Abu Mayzar referred to the manifestations shown by Western countries that they are concerned about peace in the Middle East. He said: Events have revealed the falsehood of their policy through the participation of some of these countries in the multinational force that will be stationed in occupied Sinai, because this participation confirms their involvement in the Camp David schemes and conspiracies.

Abu Mayzar condemned statements like the ones by Thatcher and Reagan because they try to harm the PLO's legitimacy and its militant reputation. He reiterated the PLO's rejection of any settlement that does not include Israel's complete and unconditional withdrawal from all of the occupied Arab territories and does not enable the Palestinian people to exercising their national rights, foremost of which is their right to return, to obtain self-determination and to establish their independent state.

Abu Mayzar also reiterated the PLO's rejection of all U.S.-British blackmail attempts and meetings with any British official on the basis of the positions of blackmail and stressed the Palestinian people's determination to continue the struggle until their objectives are achieved. He called on Arab League members to denounce the stands that are hostile to the Palestinian cause.

KUNA INTERVIEWS 'ARAFAT ON SAUDI PEACE PLAN

LD121010 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0756 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] Kuwait, 12 Nov (KUNA) -- In a press interview published here today, PLO Chairman Mr Yasir 'Arafat reiterated his declared position toward the Saudi plan for resolving the Arab-Israeli conflict, which met with criticism from a number of radical Palestinian sections.

In the interview published by the Kuwaiti paper AR-RA'I AL-'Amm, he said that the Saudi plan "constitutes an important basis" for resolving the Middle East conflict, but he added that the Palestinians have "reservations" about this plan, some of which he had conveyed to the Saudi crown prince and deputy prime minister, Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the sponsor of the plan, during a visit which 'Arafat paid to Riyadh last week.

The Palestinian leader stressed that the Palestinian proposals [as received] are still being studied by the Palestinian leadership, but he expects that they will have the approval of the Palestine National Council or parliament-in-exile, the highest Palestinian legislative authority.

'Arafat hinted that if the plan fails to obtain a consensus of the Arab states at the Fes summit later this month, then the Saudi Kingdom will not try to impose it through any kind of pressure.

The Gulf Cooperation Council member-states, which include Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the UAE, Qatar, Bahrain and the Sultanate of Oman, have asked Riyadh at the conclusion of their summit meeting yesterday to submit the plan to the Arab summit so that a unified Arab position may be attained. Mr 'Arafat said: "The eight points are neither a plan nor an initiative, but rather proposals presented by Prince Fahd on behalf of the Saudi Kingdom and His Majesty King Khalid. Prince Fahd has announced them to the Arab nation so that the latter may discuss them and give its view on them. The latest thing His Highness Prince Fahd said to me was that the eight points were submitted to the Arab nation and the Arab leaders for discussion and expression of views."

He also said: "I welcomed the plan and said that it constitutes an important basis for resolving the Middle East conflict, but we do have reservations, and I did convey some remarks to Prince Fahd. If the plan is discussed at the forthcoming Arab summit, I will express my opinion. This does not mean that I do not regard it as a positive plan which I have welcomed. His Highness Prince Fahd and I agreed not to enter into any details until the subject is officially proposed at the Arab summit."

In a reply to the paper's correspondent on whether there are common points between the Saudi plan and that put forward by the Soviet Union early this year for settling the situation in the region, he said: "I cannot speak about this matter because it is not up to me. The Soviets and the Saudis are the ones to decide this matter. I cannot decide anything of this kind."

The Soviet proposals call for holding an international conference to settle the conflict in the region, in the presence of all interested parties including the PLO, while the Saudi plan says that the United Nations shall supervise a settlement involving a complete Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab lands, setting up a Palestinian state, and recognizing the right of all states in the area to live in peace.

Palestinian sections represented in the organization's executive committee have objected to Mr 'Arafat's utterances in favor of the Saudi plan, saying that they reject it on the ground that it constitutes a recognition of the Zionist state, a matter that the Palestinian national covenant does not permit.

However, Mr 'Arafat underlines that the [Palestine] National Council, "which has said yes" to the Soviet plan put forward by President Leonid Brezhnev, will agree to the Saudi proposals. He asked: "Can he who said yes to Brezhnev's plan say no to Fahd's ideas?

Mr 'Arafat described the forthcoming Arab summit as "one of the gravest Arab summits, a turning point in the history of our nation." He expects the summits to introduce amendments to the Saudi proposals, "because Prince Fahd will submit them for discussion and leave it to the Arab leaders to discuss, amend and adopt them."

Mr 'Arafat had talks in Baghdad yesterday with President Saddam Husayn of Iraq on the forthcoming summit and the current Arab situation.

'ARAFAT CONFERS WITH SYRIA'S KHADDAM 10 NOV

JN101545 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1505 GMT 10 Nov 81

[Text] Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] this morning met with 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister. The meeting was attended by Brothers Abu Al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department; 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, PLO official spokesman, and Abu Mahir [Muhammad Ghunaym], Fatah Central Committee member.

It has been learned that the discussion during the meeting focused on the latest developments in the Arab and international situation, the outcome of the Arab Followup Committee and the Israeli military buildup in southern Lebanon.

VOP REPORTS ON 'ARAFAT'S ACTIVITIES IN BAGHDAD

NC120755 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0530 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Excerpt] In the course of a tour during which he will visit a number of Arab states to coordinate stands and to achieve a unified Arab stand before the convocation of the Arab summit conference, PLO Executive Committee Chairman and Commander in Chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] at noon yesterday met with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. They discussed developments in the Arab area, including the Israeli military escalation in southern Lebanon; Zionist provocations against the Lebanese and Palestinians; the danger which the U.S.-Israeli strategic pact poses to the Arab area and current local, Arab and international questions, in order to attain a unified Arab stand prior to the Arab summit conference to confront the imminent challenges and perils to the Arab nation.

'ARAFAT CABLES ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS TO BREZHNEV

NC121546 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1445 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] PLO Chairman 'Arafat today sent a cable to Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev congratulating him on the anniversary of the Great October Revolution. 'Araft praised the heroic role of the Soviet masses and working class in realizing socialism and in taking stands with people struggling for liberation and independence.

'Arafat also referred to the important and central role of the USSR in providing aid to all the militant people, and praised its firm and principled stand on the side of the just struggle of our Palestinian people to regain their legitimate national rights as already expressed in the latest decision to raise PLO representation to ambassadorial level.

PLO LEADER ON RECONCILIATION WITH MUBARAK

NC121558 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1445 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] Fatah Central Committee member Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] yesterday called for concentration on Palestinian national unity and the unity of the Palestinian revolution with Syria in the post-As-Sadat era.

Abu Iyad, who was addressing the Majid Abu Sharar course for cadre training in the Is'ad at-Tufulah school, (?praised) the potential of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and its ability to defuse any possible political explosion at the forthcoming Arab summit, provided that the front coordinates its efforts in the required manner.

Abu Iyad said that some Arabs are trying to bring Husni Mubarak to the forthcoming summit under the slogan of Arab solidarity, but he stressed that these statements should be (?completely) opposed since Mubarak represents a weak link in As-Sadat's policy and is incapable of changing course because the U.S. presence in Egypt has become increasingly strong.

PLO PROTESTS PLANNED UK ROLE IN SINAI FORCE

PM060955 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 5 Nov 81 p 2

[ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT report: "PLO Asks Britain Not To Participate in Sinai Force"]

[Excerpt] London -- The PLO has officially protested Britain's reported intention to participate in the international force for Sinai -- the force which will maintain security in Sinai following Israel's withdrawal from it in April, in accordance with the Camp David agreements between Israel and Egypt.

PLO London representative Nabil ar-Ramlawi last night went to the British Foreign Office and presented a note calling on Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington "to give serious consideration to the possible consequences of Britain's participation in the Sinai force and the support for and participation in the Camp David process that this signifies." Ar-Ramlawi said that such support for the Camp David process is regarded by the PLO as a retreat which may affect relations between Britain and the Arab states in the future.

Ar-Ramlawi emphasized the Palestinians' desire that Britain embark on a new independent initiative to solve the Palestinian problem.

VOP: ISRAEL REJECTS MODERATION WITH SAUDI PLAN

JN051921 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1815 GMT 5 Nov 81

[From "With the Events" program]

[Text] The Israeli attitude toward the Saudi plan, which was rejected by both doves and hawks in Israel, has finally done away with that expression which was imposed on the map of the Arab-Israeli conflict and which is summed up in one word -- moderation.

The Saudi plan contains points and ideas that do not represent maximum Arab aspirations in deciding the conflict with Zionism. This plan has been described by many people in the Arab region and the world at large as a moderate plan by a moderate state known for its strong ties with the West. Yet the Israelis have rejected these moderate ideas, thereby rejecting the very idea of moderation. The Israelis did well, and we almost thank them for helping us by removing delusion and revealing the facts.

The Zionists have told Arabs, Europeans and even some Americans, that the Arabs have only one of two options: they must either follow the example of As-Sadat and go to Jerusalem to pay homage, where they will then talk to them, or they must turn into fighting columns and they will see what happens then.

This is the substance of the Israeli stand, not only concerning the Saudi plan or the so-called European initiative, but also on the question of war and peace in the Middle East. Therefore, is there a single Arab who can accept such a stand and meet its conditions? Perhaps the next summit will be the right place to answer this question, although our people in the occupied territory and our fighters in all the bases of the revolution are clearly answering this question every day and each hour. Their answer says: Moderation is a mere delusion and fighting is the only way to regain rights.

GULF AFFAIRS

GULF STATES AGREE TO CREATE AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM

NC121355 Paris AFP in English 1157 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] Riyadh, 12 Nov (AFP) -- Six Gulf oil states have reached agreement on the creation of a common air defense system "incorporating" the U.S. AWACS radar planes in Saudi Arabia, an Omani source said here today.

The source did not specify whether the plan referred to the AWACS currently on loan to Saudi Arabia or the early warning radar craft that would be delivered in four years under a proposed sale of U.S. military equipment to Saudi Arabia.

The leaders of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and the United Arab Emirates agreed on the plan at the two-day summit of the Gulf Cooperation Council. The meeting, which ended here yesterday, examined defense coordination and mutual economic ties.

A senior Gulf official who requested anonymity said the four AWACS now patrolling Saudi air space had already contributed to the "collective defense of the Gulf.:

Two weeks ago Riyadh alerted Kuwait of the approach of two Iranian planes detected by the AWACS, the official said. More than a month ago, Kuwait blamed an attack on its oil installations on Iranian craft.

After that bombing, U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig said the AWACS had detected the Iranian planes but Kuwait was not notified because there was no joint air defense agreement.

GULF MINISTERS, ZAYID PRAISE GCC RESOLUTIONS

GF121058 Manama WAKH (Gulf News Agency) in Arabic 0523 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 11 Nov 9 (WAKH) -- UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan has lauded the constructive and positive results of the second Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] summit conference. In a statement in Riyadh following the GCC summit conference, he expressed his hope that the resolutions will be implemented in order to increase Gulf coordination and [word indistinct] and in order to move forward to another stage in which the resolutions can be implemented in a way that might benefit the citizens of the entire region, Arabs and Muslims.

Shaykh Zayid said that during the upcoming Arab summit conference in Fes, the GCC countries will clear the air between the Arab countries. They will reconcile disputed views in order to regain Arab solidarity, because solidarity is the main basis for countering the challenges facing our Arab nation. No doubt the Gulf countries are a source of strength for their brothers in the Arab world. There is great hope that the Arab countries will become more aware of their disputes, which, in the end, will vanish in the face of challenges.

Shaykh Zayid expressed his thanks and appreciation to His Majesty King Khalid of Saudi Arabia for his active role in the success of the conference, which was an auspicious meeting for the region, and for the Arab and Islamic nation. His highness emphasized that the Gulf countries will maintain their support for fraternal Saudi Arabia.

Meanwhile, Saudi Defense and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz expressed his pleasure over the positive results of the GCC summit conference. Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz said that the spirit of Arab and Islamic brotherhood and the consensus that prevailed during the GCC meetings were the stimulus to these [word indistinct] and a reason for amity, love, peace and humanity in general and for Arab affairs in particular.

As for the GCC defense ministers' meeting, he said it will be held in the near future, after appropriate consultations between the GCC defense ministers.

Bahraini Foreign Affairs Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah also made a statement here following the final session of the GCC summit. In this statement he expressed his satisfaction and contentment over the GCC results, among which is the endorsements of the economic agreement which constitutes the basis of increasing cooperation between the GCC countries. He also expressed his satisfaction over other issues that were discussed during the summit conference. The Bahraini minister emphasized that the GCC has made great strides. He expressed the hope that more and more will be achieved during future meetings. On the military cooperation between the GCC countries, he said that a technical committee has been formed which presented a report to the GCC defense ministers for study and for appropriate planning. On industrial development strategy, Shayhk Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah said that the first GCC industry ministers' meeting resulted in the formation of a committee and that a resolution has been taken to make this committee permanent. This committee will meet shortly in order to carry out studies to lay down the basis for comprehensive industrial development in the Gulf region.

Saudi Industry and Electricity Minister Dr Ghazi al-Qusaybi -- who is a member of the Saudi delegation to the GCC Supreme Concil -- has described the meetings as fraternal and constructive. He said the meetings were held in an atmosphere of amity and brotherhood among members of a family. He also said that views were identical on all issues that were discussed.

QATAR

AMIR PRAISES OUTCOME OF GULF COOPERATION SUMMIT

LD122006 Riyadh SPA in English 1904 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] Riyadh, 12 Nov (SPA) -- The amir of Qatar, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, today reaffirmed that the outcome of Gulf Cooperation Council heads of state summit was a milestone for the coordination and integration of Gulf resources and potentialities for a comprehensive renaissance for security, stability, progress and prosperity of the Gulf region and for strengthening support for the Arab and Islamic nation. The amir of Qatar, who returned to Doha, in a statement to SPA before leaving home expressed his full satisfaction over the results of the summit and especially the support to Saudi Arabian peace plan.

He said the eight-point plan, representing the resolutions of the Arab summits and the United Nations, has gained the unanimous support of the Gulf leaders and will be formally placed on the agenda of the upcoming 12th Arab summit in Fes (Morocco).

He praised the results of the Riyadh summit in various spheres, especially the summit call of strengthening the Arab solidarity, the only means to realise victory for a global and just settlement of the Palestinian problem. The amir of Qatar also commended the useful contribution to the summit made by the Kingdon's leadership led by His Majesty King Khalid and Crown Prince Fahd.

NEWSPAPERS PRAISE GULF SUMMIT'S RESOLUTIONS

GF121441 Doha QNA in Arabic 1332 12 Nov 81

[Exceptions] Gulf newspapers published today praise the positive results of the Gulf Cooperation Council second summit conference. The papers stress the importance of the resolutions included in the conference's concluding statement, such as the unanimous approval of the Saudi peace plan and the absolute support for the struggle of the Palestinian people and their right to self-determination.

The Qatari newspaper AR-RAYAH has welcomed the points included in the conference's communique which, it said, had received the concentration and full attention of the Gulf leaders who were inspired to do so by the Gulf masses and the masses of the entire Arab nation.

Doha's AL-'ARAB has also welcomed the resolutions included in the second Gulf summit conference communique and described these resolutions as nationalist achievements and as being on the level of historic responsibility. The paper added that the results of the summit confirm the determination of the council's states to confront the challenges facing our nation and confirm their awareness of the dimensions of the current and next stages.

GULF TIMES, which is published in English in Doha, highlighted the Gulf states' approval of the Saudi peace plan for the Middle East. The paper said that when the plan is submitted to the Arab summit conference in Fes, the Arab states will be tested on their ability to form a united front against Israel. The paper noted that the peace plan of Saudi Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz is the first Arab plan to be partly approved by the United States of America and the ECC states despite Israeli opposition.

UAE

NEWSPAPERS VIEW RESULTS OF GULF SUMMIT

GF121838 Abu Dhabi WAM (EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY) in Arabic 0620 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 12 Nov (WAM) -- In their editorials today, UAE newspapers lauded the final statement of the second summit conference of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] and its approval of Saudi Arabia's peace plan and its support for the struggle of the Palestinian people for their right to self-determination.

All the newspapers agreed that the statement was an accurate expression of the aspirations of all Arabs and that the GCC will be the bastion of Arab solidarity and the struggle of Arab people to restore their rights and to occupy an international place appropriate to their position.

Under the title "Riyadh Summit Statement and the Cement of Arab Solidarity," AL-ITTIHAD says: "We can say that the Arab call for a permanent and just peace in the region is a traditional Arab call repeated at each Arab summit since 1967. But the timing of this call and its connection with Saudi Arabia's peace plan lends a special importance to the call and these principles. This timing is a reiteration of the fact that there will be no concession on rights or on 1 inch of land. It is also a reiteration of the fact that if any of these conditions are not fulfilled, just or comprehensive peace in the region will not be guaranteeed. This will only guarantee a kind of armed truce which will only lead to another round of fighting and war."

The newspaper adds: "The GCC countries' adoption of Saudi Arabia's peace plan will push this plan another step forward to gain overall Arab legitimacy -- hence the reason why Gulf leaders have called for the inclusion of this plan in the agenda of the upcoming Arab summit in Fes being held to formulate a unified Arab stand on the Palestinian cause."

AL-FAJR expressed hope that the great success of the Riyadh summit would be a beginning for a greater Arab success at the Fes summit, "so as to face the world as one man with a unified stand for peace, right and justice for the Arab and Islamic nation and for the whole world."

AL-FAJR says: "During their second summit, Gulf leaders shouldered their responsibility toward Gulf security and stability. They affirmed that Gulf security is the duty of its people and requires more security and defense coordination to protect the region from the designs and ambitions of the superpowers."

The newspaper concludes its editorial by saying: "We emphasize that the GCC countries have undoubtedly proved that Arabs can -- through their unity of views and stands -- restore their usurped rights and face the current challenges."

Under the title "A Lesson for the Fes Summit," the Dubayy newspaper AL-BAYAN says the adoption of Saudi Arabia's peace plan at the GCC summit that ended yesterday proves that when the six leaders met, their primary concern was not for the countries on the Gulf but was for the entire Arab world, which is the center of their interest. They adopted this initiative hoping for a solution to the problem that is a source of trouble for the entire Arab world."

The newspaper says: "This direct and frank stand is a practical reply to all skepticism that began when the GCC was formed. It is a reply to the skepticism which aims at distorting the unified effort by claiming that the GCC is a congregation of the rich who want to be completely devoted to themselves and far from the concerns of their brothers. Reality refutes all such claims. Truth remains pure and evident and is stronger than any distortion or skepticism. This truth is that the strong Arab pulse was the main factor behind the establishment of this council."

In conclusion, AL-BAYAN stresses that the adoption of Saudi Arabia's peace plan is an indication of unity. It is also a cause of unlimited annoyance to the enemy, who makes all of his calculations on Arab differences and disintegration. The newspaper hopes that this "will be a lesson for the participants of the Fes summit."

Under the title "The Arab Significance of the GCC," the newspaper AL-WAHDAH says, "The Gulf accomplishment in Riyadh yesterday is like the great accomplishment that was achieved in Abu Dhabi during the first summit, which witnessed the birth of the GCC. It is an Arab acocmplishment to face disintegration and disunity which was imposed on the people of the same nation."

The newspaper affirms that "the GCC is able to fulfill much of the aspirations of these people to achieve more development and a better life for its people. The success of Gulf progress depends largely on the start of joint projects which, it was agreed, should receive more support and backing and require a greater effort to become an established fact."

Concluding its commentary, the newspaper calls for Arab solidarity, emphasizing that this is necessary to achieve progress and face challenges. The newspaper hopes that unified Gulf progress will revive the hope of greater unified action throughout the entire Arab world.

PDRY

GOVERNMENT CONDEMNS BRIGHT STAR EXERCISES

LD111518 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 11 Nov 81

[PDRY Foreign Ministry statement issued 10 November]

[Text] American imperialist circles, in collaboration with regimes allied to it in Egypt, Sudan, Oman and Somalia, have begun hostile military exercises in the Mediterranean Sea and the western desert on the Libyan borders, and in Sudan, Somalia and Oman on the borders of our republic.

These hostile military exercises of U.S. imperialism and its agents, which constitute a direct threat to the security and safety of the peoples of the region, are an inseparable part of the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary design directed against nationalist and progressive regimes and the forces of national liberation. The exercises also constitute naked interference in the affairs of the countries of the region and fan the fever of war, increase and intensify tension and threaten international peace and security.

The nature of the aggressive aims for which the so-called Rapid Intervention [as heard] Force was founded, the establishment of U.S. military bases, the offer of aid and support for airborne forces, are no longer concealed from the peoples of the region. Foremost among these aims is the preservation of America's props in Oman, Egypt, Sudar and Somalia -- all these are now part of the rapid intervention force, if not to say its vanguard.

The hostile military exercises in the region and on the borders of our country with that of the agent regime of Muscat constitute a natural extension of the treacherous Camp David policy, which has reached a dead end. They coincide with the beginning of the practical implementation of the strategic cooperation agreement between the Americans and the Zionists directed against the rights of the Palestinian people and of our Arab peoples.

Democratic Yemen, which has always been eager for security and stability in the region, wishes to draw attention to the great dangers to which the Arab nation is being subjected as a result of these exercises. They constitute new evidence of the creation by the enemy of a tense atmosphere for direct interference and imposition of the comprehensive hegemony of U.S. imperialism over the states in the region and their resources, on the flimsy excuse of what it calls the preservation of its strategic interests.

The PDRY condemns and strongly denounces these hostile exercises. It affirms its policy of solidarity and cohesion with the Arab nationalist and progressive regimes and the Arab national liberation movement. It is confident that the Arab peoples and the peace-loving peoples of the world, with their tradition of struggle, will stand resolutely to face up to the imperialist onslaught and will demonstrate their ability to resist the aggressive goals of American imperialism, Zionism and reaction.

YAR

SAN'A' RADIO COMMENTS ON PRESIDENT'S SAUDI VISIT

JN082130 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 8 Nov 81

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] The brother leader's visit to the great sister Saudi Arabia and the summit meeting he had with His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz was an affirmation of this trend of cooperation among the Arab leaders to face all challenges and concert efforts in the interest of the Arab nation and the achievement of comprehensive development in both fraternal countries.

Brother leader 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih asserted the importance of his visit to Saudi Arabia when he said: Our visit to fraternal Saudi Arabia was a good opportunity to meet with our brother His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and the brother officials there to discuss all matters concerning the Arab and Muslim nations, primarily the central Arab issue -- the Palestine question. The visit enabled us to consult on the work of the coming Arab summit, which we hope will succeed to achieve all our aspirations and all the hopes of our nation. We also discussed with King Khalid and the brother officials bilateral issues concerning our two countries for the sake of our mutual benefit.

By stressing the importance of the visit on the local, Arab and international levels, the brother leader is, in fact, asserting that we are following a clear line toward building our relationship with our brothers on sound and strong bases. Our determination to make our policies stem from our willpower and our country's interests and independent view of current international events and developments has reaped fruits on the Arab and international levels and made us more determined to deal with both the East and the West and to strengthen Arab solidarity against all challenges. We are strong and determined to make others respect and appreciate this nation and its economic, cultural and human ability to influence events and developments. This has scared our enemies who covert our nation's resources. Our Arab nation can rise to the occasion, thanks to our leader's awareness of the seriousness of this confrontation and the importance of solidarity. This is what we are seeing now and what will further develop in the near future.

MUBARAK ANSWERS NEWSMEN'S QUESTIONS ON MIDEAST

NC121648 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1430 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] Cairo, 12 Nov (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak said today that it is not important whether the autonomy talks are concluded before or after Israel's withdrawal from the Sinai. He added that what is important is that we attain the principles which we consider reasonable.

The president was speaking to newsmen before leaving Al-'Urubah Palace following the end of his talks with leaders of the delegations taking part in the autonomy talks and with U.S. businessmen.

Following is the text of the president's statements:

Question: Has the question of the settlements been raised with the Israeli delegation which is taking part in the negotiations?

Answer: I dealt only with the general issues related to the autonomy. I affirmed that our political line will remain constant in the post-withdrawal stage -- as I had previously stated to the People's Assembly and the Consultative Council.

Question: Did you discuss Prince Fahd's plan?

Answer: Camp David constitutes the basis of our action. We will discuss and follow up any initiative emanating from any other quarter.

Question: Will you visit Israel?

Answer: Yes. The visit will take place next year.

Question: Will any statement be issued today by the delegations taking part in the autonomy talks?

Answer: I believe so.

Question: Will President Numayri visit Egypt?

Answer: Yes. He will visit Egypt while on his way to the United States. He will also visit us on his way back. But no date has been fixed.

Question: Will you deliver a speech next Saturday on the 40th anniversary of President as-Sadat's departure?

Answer: Yes, I will deliver a speech.

Question: Will Navon Come to Egypt?

Answer: Yes, he will come next Tuesday.

Question: Do you think the autonomy talks will be concluded before Israel hands back the Sinai?

Answer: Whether these talks are concluded before or after the handover of Sinai by 1 week or 1 or 2 months is immaterial. What is important is that we attain a declaration of principles -- a reasonable one at that.

Question: But is the gap still wide?

Answer: They are holding negotiations to narrow that gap.

Question: Has any progress been made in these negotiations?

Answer: It is essential that there be progress.

Question: With regard to Israel's withdrawal from northern Sinai in which settlements exist, did you discuss this issue with the Israeli party?

Answer: Why should we discuss an issue which has already been agreed upon and previously signed within the [Camp David] agreement? The main dialogue held today centered only on autonomy.

REPORTAGE ON AUTONOMY NEGOTIATIONS CAIRO SESSION

Delegations Meets Mubarak

NC121305 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1035 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] Cairo, 12 Nov (MENA) -- This morning, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received the heads of the Israeli, U.S. and Egyptian delegations to the autonomy discussions.

The Israeli delegation includes interior minister and head of the delegation Dr Yosef Burg, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Justice Minister Moshe Nisim. The U.S. delegation includes U.S. Ambassador to Egypt Alfred Atherton and the U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis. The Egyptian side includes Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali and Egyptian Ambassador to Israel Sa'd Murtada.

Head of the Israeli delegation Dr Yosef Burg has described the meeting as good and said that the meeting was to affirm that the Camp David agreement was the only firm basis for arriving at peace in the area. Burg added that the meeting dealt with the autonomy question and that, as President Mubarak had said, all the parties are interested in arriving as soon as possible at urgent and specific results.

Burg said that the comprehensive situation in the world and in the area was also reviewed.

Asked whether an agreement is expected at the end of the talks, Dr Burg said: We are discussing the principles, not the agreement. That is the concern of the work groups currently meeting to discuss and arrive at an agreement.

Asked if they obtained assurances from President Mubarak to abide by the Camp David agreement as the only framework for peace, Dr Burg said: President Mubarak has not done so, but he affirmed this more than once and declared it last week in a speech to the People's Assembly.

Answering another question Burg said that the discussions touched on Prince Fahd's plan in passing. He added: As I said and as the president affirmed, Camp David is the sole basis for peace in the Middle East.

Asked if the question of setting up Israeli settlements in the occupied areas was raised with the Egyptian side, with the president or in the autonomy talks, Burg said: This was raised at the delegations meetings. In relation to our meeting with the president, I cannot elaborate on that.

In a statement after the meeting, Kamal Hasan 'Ali expressed the hope that some progress will be achieved during the meetings among the three delegations tonight. He noted that this afternoon the work groups, which are functioning with intensive efforts, are due to submit their report to the heads of the delegations.

Asked if after this afternoon's session a further ministerial meeting is expected to be held in the near future, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that this had not been defined.

Asked if the United States will present proposals to renew the momentum of the autonomy negotiations, Alfred Atherton said: Samuel Lewis and I here represent the United States as a complete partner in the negotiations and we will continue to carry out this role in the future.

He added: I stress that our silence at times must not be misunderstood. I do not believe that anyone was clearer than President Reagan at the press conference the day before yesterday on the U.S. stand regarding Camp David. This means that the Camp David accords are the basis for our talks.

To a question on his assessment of the situation and if he was confident of achieving a real progress, Atherton said: Our meeting yesterday was a good one and we will continue to achieve progress in the coming meetings.

Final Statement

NC121954 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] The heads of the Egyptian, American and Israeli delegations have announced the adherence of their governments to the framework of the Camp David agreement which is the sole framework which has been agreed upon as a possible means for achieving peace in the Middle East -- to which these governments have committed themselves.

This came in the final statement which was announced by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali at the end of the ministerial session of the autonomy talks. The statement said that the delegations which represented Egypt and Israel on a ministerial level, as well as the U.S. delegation, met in Al-Jizah on 11 and 12 November to complete the negotiations related to the attainment of an agreement for the establishment of a full autonomy -- as stipulated by the Camp David agreement with regard to peace in the Middle East. The three delegations reiterated their governments' adherence to the Camp David framework as the only framework which has been agreed upon as a possible means for achieving peace in the Middle East. The statement added that the ministers have declared their insistence on continuing the negotiations to attain a successful result.

The statement also said that President Husni Mubarak received the three delegations and that, during this meeting, an agreement was reached on the matters mentioned in the statement. A debate was also made of other matters related to the peace process.

The statement said that the three delegations continued their work to attain an agreement on the declaration of principles and understanding -- a goal which had been agreed upon during the meeting held on 24 September in Cairo -- which will help attain a final agreement on the full autonomy and which will help establish realistic measures with regard to the transitional phase.

The delegations welcomed the report submitted by the working group and praised the progress it achieved to attain solutions with regard to the issue of the powers and jurisdictions and the establishment of the council related to the autonomy and its responsibilities. The heads of the delegations have asked the working group to complete its work by focusing on security issues and the organizational and legislative authorities of autonomy. The heads of the delegations have also asked the working group to submit the draft agreement with regard to the declaration of principles so that it can be discussed by the heads of the delegations.

Mr Kamal Hasan 'Ali said there are some points of difference and that, during the forthcoming negotiations, these differences can be overcome. He added that no specific time has been set up for the conclusion of the negotiations and that the negotiations will continue to attain an agreement concerning the establishment of autonomy. He added that Egypt has a specific stance with regard to the establishment of settlements and that the heads of the delegations will meet later to complete their discussions.

The working group will resume its meetings next Monday in Al-Jizah to continue discussing the topics on the agenda.

The Israeli delegation will leave Cairo this evening.

Press Conference

NC130001 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2250 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] Cairo, 12 Nov (MENA) -- The Egyptian, Israeli and U.S. delegations held a second round of talks at the ministerial level at 1615 today in the Mena House suite of Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali to discuss what the trilateral committee at the expert level has achieved and to prepare the final statement that will be issued at the end of this meeting.

The Egyptian side was headed by Kamal Hasan 'Ali and included Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Ambassador Tahir Shash and Egyptian Ambassador to Israel Sa'd Murtada. The Israeli delegation was headed by Interior Minister Yosef Burg and included Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Interior Ministry Director General Kubersky. The U.S. side included U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis and U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Alfred Atherton.

The second round of talks among the three delegations lasted about 4 hours at the end of which Kamal Hasan 'Ali announced the joint statement that the three delegations have agreed upon in the presence of the U.S. and Israeli sides. After announcing the joint statement issued on the talks, Kamal Hasan 'Ali held a press conference at which he and Yosef Burg answered newsmen's questions.

In answer to a question 'Ali said: We focused on the issue of the powers and responsibilities of the Palestinian authority. There is still a gap between us. He added that the working group is acting seriously and that there are still some differences. These groups must work again to narrow the gap.

In answer to another question, 'Ali said: We have agreed that the working committees will continue their work at the expert level. They are actually working hard to achieve progress. By making progress in the talks we can see the differences and tackel them later on at the ministerial level.

In answer to a question about his impressions about this new round of talks, 'Ali said: I am always happy when we negotiate and talk for autonomy for the Palestinians.

Asked if 25 January is a target date for the end of these talks, 'Ali said: There is no target date, but we are working and hope to reach an agreement. The sooner we reach an agreement, the better.

In answer to the same question Yosef Burg said: We are working for a goal, but there is no target date. Commenting on the same question, 'Ali said: As Dr Yosef Burg has said, there is a goal, but not a target date.

Asked about the issue of settlements and whether it was discussed, 'Ali said: Our stand on this issue is not new. The issue of settlements will definitely be discussed at a certain stage of the negotiations.

Asked about the reason for not issuing a memorandum of understanding on this trilateral meeting, 'Ali said: I believe that differences still exist in certain main points. This is what hindered the issuance of a memorandum of understanding.

Asked if a progress has been achieved during this round in certain fields, Yosef Burg said: Yes, some progress was made in certain points and in others no progress has been achieved. Asked how he would describe the progress in certain fields, Burg said: We have become more aware of our points of difference, alternatives were proposed and the working groups will continue their work.

Western sources of the three negotiating parties say that preparing the statement that was issued on this round of talks took all the second and last meeting and that several discussions took place. The U.S. side prepared a draft statement, and then the Egyptian and Israeli sides made amendments to it, and eventually they agreed on the formula of the statement.

Delegates Depart

NC130053 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0040 GMT 13 Nov 81

[Text] Cairo, 12 Nov (MENA) -- The Israeli delegation to the Palestinian autonomy talks, headed by Interior Minister Yosef Burg and including Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon and Justice Minister Moshe Nisim, left Cairo for Israel this evening.

The Israeli delegation was seen off at the airport by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Egyptian Ambassador to Israel Sa'd Murtada and Israeli Ambassador in Cairo Moshe Sasson. U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis left on the same plane.

ARRESTED MUSLIM FUNDAMENTALISTS REPORTEDLY DIE

NC121400 Paris AFP in English 1346 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] Cairo, 12 Nov (AFP) -- Three Muslim fundamentalists who were arrested in the manhunt that followed the assassination of Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat last month have died under torture, their relatives alleged today.

The relatives said the authorities refused to confirm the deaths, which they claimed to have learned from sources inside the medieval citadel prison on the outskirts of the capital where the three were held with other suspects.

But a senior official at the Egyptian Interior Ministry today dismissed the allegations as "baseless."

He also denied a separate allegation, levelled this week by the Egyptian branch of the fundamentalist Muslim Brotherhood, that an editor on the movement's magazine had died on Monday in the Urrah prison on the southern outskirts of Cairo.

The editor, Kamal as-Sananiri, was arrested in September during the purge launched by President as-Sadat shortly before his death against religious extremists.

Meanwhile 34 suspects held in the same prison since October 8 in connection with the As-Sadat assassination today entered their eighth day of a hunger strike to protest against conditions of their detention.

In an open letter to the public prosecutor the hunger strikers protested that they were being denied the pre-trial right of being treated as defendants, and were being held 25 to a cell, 24 hours a day.

Informed sources here indicated that the jail conditions of some 100 liberals and left-wingers, arrested early in September during the religious purge, had improved markedly since the death of President as-Sadat.

MUBARAK PLEDGES IMPROVED U.S. INVESTMENT CLIMATE

NC121734 Cairo MENA in English 1606 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] Cairo, 12 Nov (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak today voiced his support and blessings for the steps taken by American investments in Egypt.

This was announced by Deputy-Premier for Financial and Economic Affairs Dr 'Abd ar-Razzaq 'Abd al-Majid, following a meeting between the Egyptian president and a delegation of American businessmen currently visiting here to participate in the seventh session of the joint Egyptian-U.S. business council.

The meeting covered the obstacles impeding investors' activities in Egypt, and President Mubarak gave his directives to remove those hurdles. Dr 'Abd al-Majid said.

President Mubarak also gave his directives to prevent dumping Egyptian markets, protect national industries, and enforce customs tariffs that would be in the interest of the Egyptian producer and not the importer of similar foreign foods, he added.

About the volume and kind of investment projects recently approved Dr 'Abd al-Majid pointed out that the investments authority last week approved 58 projects that included pharmaceutical and petro-chemical industries. There were also 102 projects at a capital of 138 million Egyptian pounds with investment costs of 250 million pounds, he added.

He emphasised that there would be no going back on any of the projects approved by the authority, adding that only the projects that serve the wider base of the masses would be approved.

He also underlined that the recent influx of foreign businessmen on Egypt underscores their confidence in and support of Egypt's open-door policy.

He pointed out that the draft Egyptian-Sudanese-American agreement on setting up and agro-industrial complex would be discussed.

President Mubarak's meeting with the American delegation led by Frank Considine, was attended by Dr 'Abd al-Majid, State Minister for Economy Dr Sulayman Nur ad-Din and American Ambassador in Cairo Alfred Atherton.

Considine later said that President Mubarak emphasised during the meeting the continuation of the economic liberlisation policies and the support for the private sectors role in the upcoming stage in realising productive development.

The president expounded to the delegation the development strategies pursued by Egypt, with the aim of bolstering productive investments through speeding up the rates of implementation of good sufficiency projects, as well as those enterprises that meet the masses' needs, Considine said.

He added that President Mubarak assured them of the government's keen desire to resolve investors' problems so as to ensure the quick execution of projects.

President Mubarak also showed complete understanding of the American role in the spheres of industry and the use of technology in Egypt, he said.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE NO 520

JN121720 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Communique No 520 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 12 November 1981]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Following are the results of our valiant armed forces' activities in the operational sectors last night and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Nine were killed and one vehicle was destroyed in the Mimak area in front of our positions in Sayf Sa'd.
B. Six were killed and two vehicles, one gun, three stockpiles of hardware and one observation post were destroyed in the Abadan area.
C. Four were killed and one gun was destroyed in the Nowsud area.
D. Five were killed in the Dezful area.
E. Two were killed and one tank, one vehicle carrying personnel and one stockpile of hardware were destroyed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area.
F. One personnel carrier was destroyed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area.
G. Our fighter aircraft continued their daring raids on enemy positions and concentrations in the southern sector of the theater of operations, inflicting grave losses in life and equipment before returning safely to base.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 26 killed and one tank, one personnel carrier, four vehicles, two guns, four stockpiles of hardware and one observation post destroyed.

II. It has been confirmed that the enemy's losses in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area on the night of 10-11 November 1981 as a result of our armed forces' activities, numbered 35 killed.

III. Our losses:

A. In personnel: Six martyrs in all sectors.
B. The Persian enemy this morning shelled the Basra area with heavy artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 12 November 1981

BULGARIAN DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR TALKS 8 NOV

JN082103 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2050 GMT 8 Nov 81

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Nov (INA) -- Todor Bozhinov, first deputy chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, has arrived here at the head of an official delegation on a visit of several days to Iraq. The Bulgarian official expressed his pleasure in visiting Iraq, underlining the strength of the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two friendly countries.

In a statement upon arrival, he said that his visit is an extension to the exchange of visit between officials in the two countries.

Cooperation Talks Open

JN091441 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1225 GMT 9 Nov 81

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 9 Nov (INA) -- Iraqi-Bulgarian talks on economic, technical and scientific cooperation began here today. The Iraqi side is headed by Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and first deputy prime minister, while the Bulgarian side is headed by Todor Bozhinov, first deputy chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers.

The Iraqi delegation comprises Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and minister of industry; 'Amir Mahdi, minister of agriculture and agrarian reform and head of the Iraqi delegation on the Iraqi-Bulgarian Joint Committee; and other experts.

The Bulgarian delegation comprises Khristo Iliev Khristov, minister of foreign trade and head of the Bulgarian delegation on the Iraqi-Bulgarian Joint Committee; Aleksandur Petkov, chairman of the executive committee of the National Agro-Industrial Union Central Council; and other experts.

At the beginning of the talks, Taha Yasin Ramadan welcomed the Bulgarian delegation and praised the progress achieved in Iraqi-Bulgarian relations thanks to the leadership of President Saddam Husayn and Chairman of the State Council Todor Zhivkov.

RCC member and Deputy Premier Ramadan called on the technical committees to formulate new and developed formulas for joint cooperation. He stressed that Iraq, while waging a battle against the racist Persians for the second year, continues to increase its strength, firmness and development in all spheres, whether in the military and developmental spheres or in foreign relations.

Ramadan praised the Bulgarian people's positive stand on the Iraqi-Iranian conflict which is commensurate with the magnitude of the event and which confirms the strong relations between the two friendly countries.

In response, Bozhinov reiterated Bulgaria's support for Iraq's endeavors to solve the Iraqi-Iranian conflict through peaceful means and its stand against the Camp David policy and world Zionism. He said: We are pleased at Iraq's stability, development and progress despite the war. This clearly shows the wisdom of its leadership. He expressed his confidence that the current meetings will attain fruitful results in the interest of the two friendly peoples.

Afterward, the meetings of the 13th session of the Iraqi-Bulgarian Joint Committee for scientific, technical and economic cooperation began. The Iraqi side to the meetings was headed by 'Amir Mahdi Salih, minister of agriculture and agrarian reform, and the Bulgarian side by Khristo Iliev Khristov, minister of foreign trade.

The two sides discussed the trade plan between Iraq and Bulgaria for the year 1982 and the projects which have so far been implemented in the fields of agriculture, irrigation, scientific and technical cooperation. They also discussed the problems that faced the implementation process. The following six committees have stemmed from the meetings: committee for trade, finance, planning and industry; constructions; technical and scientific cooperation; agriculture and irrigation; transport and tourism; and secretaryship. The committees will draw up the joint plans for cooperation between Iraq and Bulgaria in 1982.

Trade Ministers Confer

JN091834 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1825 GMT 9 Nov 81

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Nov (INA) -- Hasan 'Ali, Revolution Command Council member and trade minister, met here tonight with Bulgarian Foreign Trade Minister Khristo Khristov. The two ministers discussed technical, trade and economic cooperation and the means to develop these fields between the two friendly countries.

The two sides asserted their desire to increase the volume of the trade exchange between the two countries in light of the results which will be attained by the trade subcommittee that stemmed from the Iraqi-Bulgarian Joint Committee.

Saddam Receives Message

JN101316 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1250 GMT 10 Nov 81

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Nov (INA) -- President Saddam Husayn has received a written message from Todor Zhivkov, chairman of the Bulgarian State Council, about relations between the two friendly countries. The message was delivered by Todor Bozhinov, member of the Bulgarian Communist Party Politburo and first deputy chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, when he was received by the president at noon today.

The Bulgarian official offered the president a gift from Todor Zhivkov and the Bulgarian state in commendation of his efforts in bolstering bilateral cooperation in the interest of the two friendly countries.

The meeting was attended by 'Izzat Ibrahim, Revolution Command Council [RCC] vice chairman; Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Tariq Hamad al-'Abdallah, RCC secretary and acting chief of the president's office; and the Bulgarian ambassador in Baghdad.

Agreement Signed

JN122006 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] Iraq and Bulgaria this evening signed an agreement for developing their economic, technical and scientific cooperation. The signing ceremony was attended by Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and first deputy prime minister; Todor Bozhinov, member of the Bulgarian Communist Party Politburo and first deputy chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers; Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister; Aleksandur Petkov, chairman of the executive committee of the National Agro-Industrial Union Central Council; and the members of the Iraqi and Bulgarian sides to the Iraqi-Bulgarian Joint Committee.

The agreement was signed for Iraq by 'Amir Mahdi Salih, minister of agriculture and agrarian reform, and for Bulgaria by Khristo Khristov, minister of foreign trade.

Taha Yasin Ramadan made a speech prior to the signing of the agreement. He praised the results attained by the Iraqi-Bulgarian Joint Committee for economic, technical and scientific cooperation, results which reflect the developing relations between Iraq and Bulgaria. Ramadan expressed Iraq's readiness to build the closest relations with this friendly country in the service of their mutual interests, pointing out the burgeoning development process in Iraq, the solid domestic front despite the war, and Iraq's victories over the racist Persian enemy.

Todor Bozhinov praised the warm reception and hospitality accorded him and the members of his delegation, which confirm the strong ties linking the two friendly countries and peoples. He pointed out the good results attained by the Iraqi-Bulgarian Joint Committee for economic, technical and scientific cooperation.

Todor Bozhinov and the members of his delegation left Baghdad this evening at the end of a visit of several days to Iraq. In a departure statement, Bozhinov said: We highly appreciate the outcome of the meetings of the 13th session of the Iraqi-Bulgarian Joint Committee for economic, technical and scientific cooperation. He added that these results would lend scientific and technical impetus to, and expand the trade exchange between, the two friendly countries until 1985.

He was seen off by Taha Yasin Ramadan, Hasan 'Ali, a number of ministers, and the Bulgarian ambassador in Baghdad.

ARMENIAN SSR DELEGATION MEETS WITH OFFICIALS

Received by Ba'th Official

JN041301 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] Baghdad--Comrade 'Abd al-Fattah Muhammad Amin, Ba'th Party regional command member and chairman of the Iraqi Friendship Societies Union With the Peoples, this morning received Vladimir Migranovich Movsesyan, deputy chairman of Armenian SSR Council of Ministers, and his delegation.

Comrade 'Abd al-Fattah Muhammad Amin welcomed the delegation, expressing his hope that the visit would enhance the ties of friendship between Iraq and the Soviet Union. He added that the visit is of a special significance since it is being made at a time when Iraq is waging its just war against the racist Persians. He stressed the importance of consolidating solidarity among all the progressive forces in the world at this stage to confront the imperialist vicious onslaught which is being led by the United States.

The deputy chairman of the Armenian SSR Council of Ministers expressed his pleasure and that of his delegation of visiting Iraq, saying that he hopes the visit will contribute toward expanding and strengthening the relations of friendship and cooperation between Iraq and the Soviet Union.

He pointed out his country's stand in support of the Arab people's struggle for the sake of their legitimate rights and also in support of halting the Iraqi-Iranian war and solving it through peaceful means.

Received by Ramadan

JN121358 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Excerpts] Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and first deputy prime minister, today received Vladimir Movsesyan, deputy chairman of the Armenian SSR Council of Ministers, and his delegation.

The RCC member expressed satisfaction with Iraqi-Soviet relations, saying: We aspire for further steps to promote bilateral cooperation in all fields.

Movsesyan expressed his and the delegation's pleasure at visiting Iraq and admiration for the progress and development they witnessed in various fields. He said that Iraqi-Soviet relations are a model of international relations with others, asserting that most of the provisions of the Iraqi-Soviet friendship treaty have been satisfactorily implemented.

THREE OF HADDAD'S MEN KILLED IN SOUTHERN LEBANON

TA130715 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 13 Nov 81

[Text] Three of Major Haddad's militia men were killed this morning while patrolling the central sector of the enclave. Our correspondents report that in the vicinity of the Rshaf village the vehicle of three militia-men hit a boobytrapped sabotage device. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that Major Haddad lodged a sharp protest with UNIFIL about the grave violation of the cease-fire by the terrorists.

Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal says that since the declaration of the cease-fire more than 3 months ago, the terrorists have violated it dozens of times. They are chiefly acting against the enclave controlled by Haddad, to provoke reaction by Israel and accuse it later of violating the cease-fire.

DAVAR COMMENTS ON HADDAD, LEBANON SITUATION

TA111123 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 11 Nov 81 p 6

[Shim'on Weiss commentary: "Major Haddad -- the Main Loser"]

[Text] A senior IDF officer in the north, who is known as Maj Sa'd Haddad's closest friend, has described what happened to the militia commander a few minutes after he retracted his resignation -- although the pair had not seen each other at all.

"The man is now sitting in his home in Marj 'Uyun," the officer said, "receiving friends and neighbors who are coming to bless him and tell him how important he is and how hard it would have been had he not retracted his resignation. He is feeling good, as though he had saved southern Lebanon from destruction. This will last for about 2 hours. Afterward he will remain alone and think on his own about what he is doing and the benefit he will draw from it and will become aware that nothing has, in fact, changed. He will decide the time has come to try another trick."

This description may be exaggerated, but it demonstrates the character of the Christian officer, aged 44, from Marj 'Uyun who has recently begun to "shoot from the hip," without any coordination with those around him. The latest shot, and perhaps it would be more precise to say the latest shell Haddad has fired -- the resignation and its retraction -- set a new record in this strange, not to say dangerous behavior. At least that is the view from Israel, which is considered quite rightly to be the militia commander's solution. [sentence as published]

Paradoxically, the one who lost most in the whole resignation affair was Haddad himself. He hoped that his resignation would set strong waves in motion, but there was no real reverberation from the move either in southern Lebanon or among Israeli security elements. The latter were, it is true, surprised, as was everybody, but they had no doubts that he would retract his resignation sooner or later. A festival and normal life in the southern Lebanese villages continued as normal. It is true that the inhabitants often praised Haddad and his action, but it was noteworthy that they understood that not everything depended on one man and that their correct relations with Israel are far more important than the future of a man, even if that man was their commander.

The resignation caused Major Haddad great damage because it brought to light all the internal struggles in southern Lebanon and, especially, in Al-Qulay'ah and Marj 'Uyun, considered to be the strongest of the militia enclves. Some people claim that Haddad did a fantastic favor for his opponents. The latter are mainly in the villages of Al-Qulay'ah and Harba from where relations with Israel began to develop in 1975-1976. Without the support of the officers and heads of those villages, Haddad's leadership would be undermined even if he gained full support from the other side of the border. Suddenly it emerged that not everybody worships the leader and he even has opponents.

If the strength of the opponents has been weak, Haddad himself -- in his broadcasts over the Voice of Hope -- uncovered them and the importance he attaches to them. Because of them, according to Haddad, he was forced to resign. These were Haddad's most ridiculous 48 hours as leader of the enclave in southern Lebanon.

It should not be forgotten that Israel is also involved in what is being done in southern Lebanon. It is true that in the latest affair security elements kept almost complete neutrality, apparently because they know the man and his quirks, but the future of southern Lebanon, "free Lebanon," as Haddad and his staff put it, is of interest to Israel, perhaps no less than it is of interest to the inhabitants themselves. Because of that it is strange that senior elements in the security establishment and people well informed about what is happening in the enclave were surprised by Haddad's move. This requires clarification. It is a good thing that the affair only lasted 2 days and the attention paid to it in the world and the region was not great. But the lesson should be learned so that senior elements in Israel will not be surprised again by an even greater shock.

For example, the following imaginary scenario could be described: Major Haddad goes into the Voice of Hope studio in Marj 'Uyun without any prior preparation and over the air, calls upon the Syrian army, the terrorists and the Government of Lebanon to reach some sort of an agreement with him about the future of Lebanon. The prime minister and the minister of defense get a note from their aides, in the middle of a Cabinet session in Jerusalem, exchange amazed glances and wipe the cold sweat off their brows.

There is no doubt that Israel must now examine closely its relations with southern Lebanon and with the inhabitants of the area, make a basic tidying up in the military and civilian fields and set clear goals concerning the extent of its involvement there in accord with the achievements gained to date and the price it has paid for them. But, more than anything else, attention should be paid to dealing correctly with the main personalities working on the other side of the fence in order that we should not one day discover that everything invested in the enclave in southern Lebanon has been thrown away.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: HUSAYN CRITICISM OF SAUDI PLAN

TA130805 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 13 Nov 81 p 1

[Report by Arye Tzimuqi]

[Text] In talks held with U.S. administration officials King Husayn criticized the Saudi plan, emphasizing it ignores Jordan and is deficient.

The king expressed his desire for the achievement of a comprehensive peace with Israel but on the condition that Israel withdraw from territories occupied in 1967. He emphasized again his link [ziqato] to UN Security Council Resolution 242 as a basis for the comprehensive peace settlement in the region.

The king demanded that the U.S. administration publicly stress a U.S. commitment to maintaining the integrity [yihuda] of the Hashemite Kingdom in Jordan. He expressed his concern about Ministers Sharon's and Shamir's declarations which talk of Jordan as a Palestinian state regardless of who rules it.

It seems that President Reagan accepted this appeal by Husayn and publicly expressed himself in favor of the Hashemite rule in Jordan.

Peres on Saudi Plan

TA121724 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres says the Saudi plan may harm the continuation of the peace process. Its radicalism compels Egypt to adopt an extremist position and makes it difficult for Egypt to pursue peace and moderation. The U.S. and European encouragement of Crown Prince Fahd then jeopardizes the implementation of the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt.

In a lecture at the Haifa Technion the Labor Party chairman stated that we should quickly explain in the United States our objection to the Saudi plan before 25 April 1982 when the Sinai withdrawal is completed. Peres is afraid that the United States may sail in undesirable directions, as he put it, and the peace negotiations will again run aground.

OFFICIALS HOPE FIRM HAND WILL END DISTURBANCES

TA121630 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Report by military correspondent Sha'ul Stav]

[Text] The defense establishment hopes that the firm hand demonstrated in the territories will bear fruit and that the ongoing disturbances will cease in light of the unequivocal reaction by the security forces. The stamp of Ari'el Sharon is noticeable in recent events in Judaea and Samaria. The defense minister has often repeated his policy, which advocates as much freedom as possible for Judaea and Samaria residents, on the one hand, and the quelling of terrorism and disturbances with the strictest possible measures, on the other hand. Thus, measures that even the military authorities cannot recall since 1976 -- a year remembered as especially strict -- have been adopted over the last few days. These days we have witnessed a closing of a university; imposing a curfew on two towns, Bayt Sahur and Qalqilyah, at the same time; closing down a paper with the order of censorship; detaining notables and restricting the movements of others. This is how we shall continue to treat violators of order, according to the Defense Ministry. We hope that the message has already been digested by the local population.

We have learned that prior to his departure for Egypt the defense minister directly instructed the governors of the various districts in Judaea and Samaria to exercise firmness in their treatment of violators of order in the territories. This direct appeal by the minister to the area commanders is an unconventional step that apparently indicates the minister's interest in events there.

Nevertheless, the disturbances continued in some cases after -- or so it appeared -- the military authorities exercised appropriate firmness. A simple example for this: At a certain stage of the disturbances, merchants were compelled to open their shops after they declared a commercial strike. A day later, when the security forces moved into stricter action, the shops were sealed off and not reopened. The firm hand was then directed at the striking merchants themselves.

At a meeting held at the beginning of the week the defense minister expressed his ideas regarding the disturbances in east Jerusalem. There, as one may recall, the Israeli police are responsible for maintaining quiet and order. The minister then met with the police's representative, commanding officer Yehezqel Karti.

Minister Sharon is now following events in the territories from Cairo. The minister receives frequent updates on the situation.

Large Security Forces Patrol

TA121657 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] The military authorities have decided to close the Bi'r Zayt University for a 2-month period. This is reported by our correspondent, 'Arad Nir. This morning Ramallah's military governor submitted to the supreme court an affidavit according to which he does not intend to reopen the university before 4 January.

Four Palestinian flags were hoisted in east Jerusalem at noon. In the course of the day several disturbances took place in Judaea and Samaria but quiet prevailed in the afternoon. The Jerusalem police are deploying larger numbers than usual in order to prevent disturbances tomorrow, during the Friday prayer in the mosques. Our correspondent, Tzvi Zerahya, reviews today's events in Judaea, Samaria and east Jerusalem:

[Begin recording] Most of the disturbances occurred in Janin today while in other Judaea and Samaria towns the disturbances were on a smaller scale.

In Nabulus, stones were thrown at an Israeli bus and tired were set afire in the morning. Stones were thrown at a vehicle going from Qiryat Arba' to Jerusalem at the Ad-Duhayshah refugee camp near Bethlehem. As a result, the back door window of the bus was shattered. Roadblocks were erected and tires were set on fire in this refugee camp as well. In Hebron, stones were thrown this morning at an Egged bus on the way from Beersheba to Jerusalem; it should be noted that the passengers were not hit.

Our correspondent, Arad Nir, reports that there were several disturbances in east Jerusalem also. Three local youths were picked up by patrolling policemen while hoisting the Palestinian flag, and two girls from the An-Nuzha school in east Jerusalem were detained on suspicion of incitement but were released upon the completion of their interrogation. Some 50 people gathered near the Damascus Gate at noon, but were dispersed by policemen. One of the youths there was detained for interrogation but was released immediately after.

The Jerusalem police are planning bigger forces for tomorrow so as to maintain order during the Friday prayers. Masses of Muslims from all over Judaea and Samaria are expected to move into east Jerusalem tomorrow. Policemen and border policemen will reinforce their patrols tomorrow on the walls of the old city and in east Jerusalem. [end recording]

Sabotage Devices Found

TA130822 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0000 GMT 13 Nov 81

[Text] A sabotage device was found and dismantled a short while ago at the Ela crossroads near the bus stop to Bet Shemesh. Another suspicious device was found and dismantled at the Har Tuv bus station. Our correspondent Moti 'Eden reports that police are now searching all gas stations and bus stops on the way from Bet Shemesh to Jerusalem. Jerusalem police commander deputy commander Rahamim Comfort asks the public to increase vigilance and report every suspicious article to phone number 100.

Hebron Appeals to Waldheim

TA121834 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] The Hebron municipality has appealed to UN Secretary Kurt Waldheim to intervene on its behalf so that the school seized by the military authorities following the attack on a Qiryat Arba' resident nearby be returned to the Romano House building. The Hebron municipality defined the seizure of the school building as violence against the Arab system of education.

REPORTS: AUTONOMY ROUND ENDS, 'NO PROGRESS MADE'

IDF Radio on Talks

TA121559 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Report by political correspondent Gad Becker -- live]

[Text] The road toward a breakthrough in the autonomy negotiations, so it has transpired here in Cairo, is not at all easy. At this moment the heads of the Israeli, Egyptian and U.S. delegations are meeting to try and formulate a document outlineing the points of agreement between the parties as well as a joint statement concluding the talks. In the course of the day the U.S. team was entrusted with the task of preparing a draft proposal for a concluding document on the basis of the tripartite talks held over the last few days.

The U.S. proposal was poor in content and was rejected by the Israeli delegation which has brought its own draft to the session currently underway. In any event, it is already clear that when the talks in Cairo end, even if the desired document is attained, further efforts will be needed in order to obtain the hoped-for breakthrough.

This morning, in a talk with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, Israeli elements were impressed with Mubarak's position that there should be no rush in the effort to implement a comprehensive settlement on autonomy, although attempts should be made to reach an agreement on principles and to keep the talks alive through deliberations on the expert level.

Today's activities extended also to matters which are not directly linked to autonomy issues. Husni Mubarak, repeated his commitment to Camp David as the sole process of peace in the Middle East. In his remarks to the Israeli ministers, Mubarak also tried to play down the weight of or the danger inherent in the Saudi initiative. These are principles the likes of which exist in the United Nations and elsewhere which Israel need not attach importance or be harmed by, he said. Mubarak reiterated several times that he has heard and taken note of Minister Shamir's recent remarks that Israel has reached the limits of concessions it can make both with regard to all autonomy issues and with regard to the remaining components of the peace agreement and process.

In a tete-a-tete talk with Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Minister Shamir dwelled on Israel's concern and fears about future relations between the two countries after the Sinai withdrawal is completed. "Ali repeated the Egyptian commitments. Israeli sources said Israel is transmitting a message to Egypt whereby action should be taken to strengthen the trust and ties between the two countries against the background of President as-Sadat's assassination and other recent events.

Still further on the talk with Husni Mubarak -- the Lebanese issue. Mubarak called on Israel to act with patience and restraint, warning that a deterioration of the situation in Lebanon may lead to confortation with Syria. Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon said Israel has patience but he warned that the terrorist acts constitute a heavy burder. He stated that a joint Israeli-Egyptian-U.S. initiative can quell terrorism.

Furthermore, Husni Mubarak repeated to the ministers that he indeed intends to visit Israel as he discussed with Prime Minister Begin during the latter's visit to Egypt for As-Sadat's funeral. Apparently Mubarak will visit Israel at the beginning of next year.

As stated, the ministers and heads of the three parties' delegations are now sitting down in an attempt to work out an agreed document. It is possible -- although the chances for this are not good -- that they will not be able to consolidate a document here. It is possible that it will be necessary to continue the talks, perhaps tomorrow morning.

Washington: 'Full Partner'

TA121119 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has expressed the hope that in the Cairo autonomy talks a certain amount of progress will be made this evening. He was speaking to our correspondent Aharon Barne'a.

U.S. Ambassador Alfred Atherton has said Washington will continue to be a full and active partner in any way that might prove useful. In about an hour, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon will meet with his counterpart, General Abu Ghazala, after which the ministeral teams will again meet for a concluding session.

This morning the delegations met with President Mubarak, and officials of the Israeli working teams drew up a document summarizing the points of agreement.

Delegations Meet Mubarak

TA121245 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Correspondent Aharon Barne'a report from Cairo]

[Text] The Egyptian president himself, Husni Mubarak, did not go out to the journalists after today's meeting with the Israeli, Egyptian and U.S. delegations. This was a good meeting, Dr Yosef Burg told correspondents when the delegations came out from the meeting which lasted a little less than 1 hour.

[Begin Burg recording -- in English] The Camp David agreement is a firm and only base for the process of peace in our region, as the president, Mr Mubarak said, in very clear and distinct words. [end recording]

[Barne'a] And as for the autonomy negotiations, Dr Burg says, all the parties -- and this is also what Egypt's President Mubarak said -- desire to achieve real results as quickly as possible. Answering our question about possibly accomplishing real achievements or a special breakthrough in this round of talks, Egypt's Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said:

[Begin recording -- in English] Certainly, we are working very hard since yesterday. And hopefully we can conclude some progress in this evening. [end recording]

[Barne'a] The American side, the almost full partner whom we almost forgot, is represented at the talks by Ambassadors Atherton and Lewis. Ambassador Alfred Atherton, U.S. ambassador in Egypt, reiterated the U.S. commitment for continuing the negotiations.

[Begin Atherton recording -- in English] First of all, Ambassador Lewis and I are here representing the United States as a full partner in the negotiations and we will continue to play that full partner role in whatever way can be most helpful. [end recording]

[Barne'a] I do not think anyone could have stated things more clearly, regarding Camp David, than President Reagan did at a news conference the day before yesterday. We see in Camp David the basis for the negotiations and we continue on this basis, Alfred Atherton said.

Talks Conclude 12 Nov

TA130737 Jerusalem POST in English 13 Nov 81 pp 1, 14

[Report by David Landau]

[Excerpts] Cairo -- Israel and Egypt have failed to make the "breakthrough" which Premier Menahem Begin had hoped for in their 30-month-old autonomy talks. At the end of a two-day ministerial session here last night Israeli sources said Israel had "moved towards" the Egyptians and been "forthcoming" on the nature of the proposed "self-governing authority" -- but the Egyptians had remained "obdurate and unyielding."

A marathon effort yesterday to reach agreement on sections of a "declaration of principles" -- sections dealing with the "jurisdiction, structure, powers and responsibilities" of the authority -- foundered, and the session ended with a bland joint statement. "The ministers," it said, "instructed the working team to complete its work expeditiously... and present a draft agreement on understandings and principles for the ministers' consideration."

Israeli chief negotiator Interior Minister Yosef Burg did not hide his disappointment. It would be "exaggerated," he said, to describe him as "much more optimistic" than when the session began. Asked if he was "happy" with the outcome, Burg admitted that he "could imagine more happiness (though I could imagine more happiness too)." In all, he was "realistic" -- and seemed to anticipate long and hard negotiations ahead.

Egyptian Deputy Premier Kamal Hasan 'Ali was similarly downbeat about what had been achieved here this week, and similarly "realistic" regarding the prospect of more drawn-out negotiations in the months ahead.

Some observers are suggesting that Egypt's interest at this time -- five months before the final Israeli pullback in Sinai -- is to keep the autonomy talks alive without arriving at any conclusion. The reasoning behind this theory is that even if an autonomy agreement were achieved -- or a "declaration of principles" -- it would immediately be rejected by the PLO and Arab hardliners. Egypt would then be in the position next April of recovering the remainder of its own occupied lands -- without being able to offer any hope of progress towards a comprehensive peace.

Similarly, total failure of the autonomy talks before April would also draw down upon Egypt accusations from the Arab rejectionists that Cairo was concluding its "seperate peace" with Israel while abandoning the Palestinian cause.

Israel's interest, on the other hand, is plainly to make as much progress as possible in the autonomy talks before the withdrawal deadline; hence, apparently, Begin's public calls for a "breakthrough."

At any rate, as the talks proceeded here this week, the premier's use of this expectation raising codeword became more and more of an embarrassment to the Israeli side. 'Ali, welcoming the Israelis at the airport on Wednesday, dutifully repeated Begin's hope for a "breakthrough," but it quickly became clear, once the ministers sat down to talk, that no such dramatic development was likely.

Under instructions from the premier (Begin-Burg telephone contact was maintained throughout the session), the Israeli side yesterday put forward a new formulation on the "jurisdiction, structure and powers" of the self-governing authority, which Israeli sources said represented a significant "move towards" the Egyptian position.

The Israelis are understood to have offered a considerable enlargement of the originally-conceived dozen-member authority. More importantly, the new Israeli proposals sought to accomodate the basic Egyptian insistence that the authority be perceived as a political body elected to represent the Palestinians on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and not merely as a panel of functionaries.

Israel agreed that the authority be elected as a single slate of leaders, with the job-apportioning to be done by the members themselves after the body is elected and constiutued.

In the joint statement, "the ministers instructed the working team to continue its work, giving priority to the issues of security and consideration of legislative and regulatory power..." Israeli sources confirmed after the talks that this shift of priority -- from "jurisdiction and structure" to "security and legislation" -- was agreed upon because the negotiators had in effect "exhausted themselves" on the first batch of issues and appeared to be heading for a dead end.

When the "priority" shifts to questions of security, it will presumably be Defence Minister Sharon who will lead on the Israeli side. Yesterday afternoon, Sharon met with Egyptian Defense Minister Abu Ghazala for a separate talk on the Sinai withdrawal arrangements.

Delegation Departs Cairo

TA121915 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] The ministerial-level autonomy talks ended in failure in Cairo today. A short joint statement was released saying the Camp David process is the only way for achieving peace in the Middle East. The head of the Egyptian delegation, Kamal Hasan 'Ali, said there is a gap between the two parties' positions regarding the autonomy institutions and that the differences are real. The Israeli delegation has already left Cairo for Israel.

Joint Statement Detailed

TA122015 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] Although the ministerial-level talks on autonomy ended in Cairo without the hoped-for turning point having been achieved, Israel and Egypt asserted that the Camp David framework is the sole road toward peace in the Middle East.

At the end of the talks, the Egyptian foreign minister read a joint statement stating that both parties reaffirm their adherence to the Camp David accords. In answer to questions by correspondents, Minister 'Ali said that there are differences on a few points discussed. We have to continue working to bridge the still existing gap. 'Ali added that for the time being it is impossible to release even a partial declaration of principles since there are differences regarding some major points. Asked about the turning point both he and Menahem Begin last month promised to attain, Minister 'Ali said: We are trying. There is a target but there is no target date.

Minister Burg was asked whether any progress was made in the talks and his reply was: In certain spheres -- yes, in others -- no.

In the joint statement Israel and Egypt have expressed their determination to conclude the negotiations soon and successfully.

Sharon Interviewed On Return

TA130706 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 13 Nov 81

[Excerpts] Israel's ministerial autonomy negotiating team returned home late last night after more than 24 hours of discussions in Cairo which failed to produce any breakthrough. Israeli, Egyptian and American neogtiators at what are called the experts level are to continue discussions in Cairo on Sunday. Reporter Alan Ben-'Ami was at Ben-gurion Airport when the Israeli ministers arrived back.

[Begin Ben-'Ami recording] Mr Sharon, while you were away there have been some events going on in Judaea and Samaria, trouble with demonstrators there. Did this issue come up at all in your talks with the Egyptians?

[Sharon] There were no remarks about this, and in the [word indistinct] understand the meaning of law and order better than we do. On the one hand we are making the lives much easier there for the peaceful population and on the other, very severe steps will be taken against any violations of order. Altogether I think that the situation is becoming much better [end recording]

Defense Minister Sharon said the Egyptians did not raise the issue of Israeli over-flights of Saudi Arabia, but Sharon declared that Israel considers Saudi Arabia a confrontation state, and everyone in the area realizes that Israel will continue to take whatever steps it must to defend itself.

Oral Message From Mubarak

TA130823 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 13 Nov 81

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin received this morning an oral message from Egypt's President Mubarak in which he reiterated Cairo's commitment to the peace treaty and the other agreements it signed with Israel. The prime minister talked this morning with the Egyptian industry minister. Cooperation between the two countries in the sphere of commerce was discussed. The Egyptian minister said his government was particularly interested in Israel's agriculture industry products and in methods of irrigation.

MA'ARIV: MUBARAK-BEGIN SUMMIT MAY BE NECESSARY

TA130903 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 13 Nov 81 p 3

[Report by Ilan Kfir]

[Text] The prime minister and the senior autonomy ministerial team will soon hold a political discussion to consolidate a position in view of the failure to obtain a breakthrough in the autonomy talks. In consultations to be held at the beginning of next week new ways and suggestions will be raised with the intention of trying to break the deadlock.

One of the assessments emerging in Jerusalem is that there will apparently be no choice but to arrange a summit between Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and Prime Minister Begin soon in order to overcome the stalemate in the talks.

Possible Visit 'Next Year'

TA121316 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] Egyptian President Husni Mubarak said he may visit Israel next year. He told correspondents this at the end of his meeting with the Israeli ministerial team to the autonomy negotiations. Our correspondent in Cairo, Aharon Barne'a, has learned that in his meeting with the Israeli ministers Mubarak repeated several times that he has taken note of the declaration made by Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir last week stating that Israel has come to the limits of concessions it can make. However, the Egyptian representatives to the negotiations still refuse to agree to any version of the memorandum of understanding regarding the administrative council and its establishment.

NEW BORDER DEMARCATION WITH EGYPT BEGINS

TA121825 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] Israeli and Egyptian officers have begun demarcating the new border in the Rafah region. Work will continue in the coming days to the other end of the border line near Elat. The IDF will retreat to this border in April 1982.

Our correspondent, Shalom Oren, reports that the demarcation and survey were agreed upon in a meeting held in Israel between Minister Sharon and Minister 'Ali a few weeks ago.

EGYPTIAN EMBASSY STATEMENT ON SAUDI PLAN

TA091402 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 9 Nov 81 p 2

[Text] The Egyptian Embassy in Tel Aviv released yesterday a statement about Egypt's attitude toward the eight-point plan of Saudi Arabia:

"Recently, talks and declarations have proliferated regarding the plan of Prince Fahd and, accordingly, the Egyptian Embassy wishes to clarify Egypt's official attitude toward the Saudi plan: There is no doubt that Egypt, which signed the Camp David accords with Israel in the United States, is adhering to those accords. President Mubarak even reiterated Egypt's adherence to the Camp David accords in a speech he delivered yesterday, in which he stated that peace with Israel was not a tactical position but a strategic one, which is unchangeable.

At the same time, Egypt believes that the plan does not include any wrong principles. Moreover, it has a number of positive points. It should be noted, however, that the plan lacks a practical basis for its implementation. Hence, Egypt is emphasizing the Camp David agreements as the only real accomplishment on the path to peace, in that they provide a comprehensive framework for an agreed peaceful solution, binding both Israel and Egypt," the statement concludes.

OFFICIAL SOURCES: ARENS WAS MISINTERPRETED

TA121310 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Excerpts] Israeli officials describe as a storm in a teacup reaction to a remark by Prof Moshe Arens, head of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, that the Saudi eight-point plan is a step ahead. They and Professor Arens say his reference to the Saudi plan was misinterpreted. More of the story from reporter Alan Ben-'Ami:

[Ben-'Ami -- live or recorded] Professor Arens is now in the United States at the head of a joint Knesset delegation of Likud and opposition Labor Party members who were sent there to explain why Israel is so firmly against the Saudi plan. So his remark that the plan is a step ahead, made after a 90 minute meeting last night between the delegation and U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, caused initial surprises and confusion. But, as Arens told Israeli reporters soon afterwards, his statement in English had been misinterpreted.

Arens, who grew up in the United States, was more specific in explaining later to Hebrew reporters just what he had meant to say in English. What was that? That the Saudi plan illustrated a change in tactics, but not in the real views of the Saudis. It is a problem that Israel has faced in recent years, he said. Extreme Arab states are trying to create the impression of moderation through foggy and ambivalent statements which are deliberately open to interpretation, so that other countries can then pressure Israel by saying: Look at this moderation, now you have to show concessions. Professor Arens' English remarks caused particular surprise because he is noted for his hard-line stance towards the peace process and because he is expected to be named soon as Israel's next ambassador to the United States.

Officials here in the Foreign Ministry and at the prime minister's office accepted that Professor Arens was indeed misinterpreted. They say there was no attempt to clarify the issue with him, since his own explanation is clear. And, to state again Israel's position: The Saudi plan shows no basis for negotiations but only offers a stage-by-stage plan that leads to the destruction of Israel. Israel, for its part, remains ready to talk peace with any Arab state, including Saudi Arabia, on the basis of UN Security Council Resolution 242 and the Camp David accords.

Begin, Knesset React

TA121943 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] The prime minister's office believes that the remarks by Knesset Member Moshe Arens yesterday, after the meeting between the Knesset delegation and the U.S. secretary of state, were a slip of the tongue. Arens said in Washington yesterday that the Saudi plan is a small step in the right direction. Our political correspondent, Elimelekh Ram, has learned from the prime minister's office that the Saudi plan was and remains a plan for the gradual liquidation of Israel.

Our party affairs correspondent, Nisim Mish'al, reports that Minister Avraham Sharir said this evening that if indeed Arens made the statement attributed to him his candidacy for the post of Israel's ambassador to the United States should be reconsidered.

Our correspondent in the Knesset reports that Knesset Member Yosi Sarid today welcomed the head of the Knesset information delegation. Sarid noted that if he had known in advance that this would be the delegation's line, it is doubtful whether the left in the Knesset would have opposed the sending of the delegation. In his opinion Arens deserves encouragement for choosing to follow this path and it can only be hoped he will not withdraw from it under the government's pressure.

JERUSALEM ARABIC ON KNESSET DELEGATION IN U.S.

JN121953 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1550 GMT 12 Nov 81

[From "With The Events" program]

[Text] The Israeli parliamentary delegation currently visiting the United States is holding meetings and carrying on informational activities to explain Israel's policy and its stand on various issues of interest to the region. Following is a report by ('Eiz Rabin) on this topic:

[Begin MK Moshe Arens recording in English] What I said was that the Saudi statement goes a little ways beyond the kind of statement they've made in the past, a little ways in the right direction, but a long ways from making Saudi Arabia a partner for peace negotiations with Israel. [end recording]

[(Rabin) in English] Knesset Member Moshe Arens, head of the Israeli parliamentary delegation currently visiting the United States, says the Saudi peace plan is a step forward on the right course because it leaves the door open to the possibility of recognition of Israel. He adds: The Saudi plan had not called for jihad against Israel. This shows that the Saudis realize that Israel cannot be liquidated militarily.

Professor Arens' statement has been misinterpreted in the United States and Israel. Press and news agency correspondents highlighted the positive idea of the step on the right course without taking the trouble to complete this statement, whereas Professor Arens has said that the Saudi plan is categorically rejected because this step is far from being a decisive step that gives Saudi Arabia the right to participate in the peace process in the Middle East.

Professor Arens stresses tha that eight points in the Saudi plan contain demands that Israel cannot fulfill.

Let us go back to the Israeli parliamentary delegation which is currently touring the United States to explain and clarify the Israeli policy.

The tasks shouldered by the six members of the delegation are numerous and difficult. They deal with all the questions that come to the mind of journalists and new agencies' correspondents on the situation in the administered areas, the peace march, the issue of autonomy, Israel's stand on the U.S. arms deal with Saudi Arabia and the issue of the destruction of the Iraqi nuclear reactor which had been discussed in the UN General Assembly.

Despite the understanding and coordination on the broad policy lines between the United States and Israel, there are some differences in the two countries' viewpoints on several issues. The success of the Israeli parliamentary delegation in its mission in the United States depends on the success of the delegation members in informing the U.S. public opinion of facts that are inspired from the requisites of safeguarding Israel's security and existence.

The members of the Israeli parliamentary delegation will meet today with Edwin Meese, counsellor to the president, and with Richard Allen, assistant to the U.S. president for national security affairs, and with the members of the committees of the joint chiefs of staff and several U.S. senators from the ruling Republican party.

U.S. Attitudes Worrisome

TA130544 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 13 Nov 81

[Text] Members of the Knesset information delegation in the United States expressed concern over the attitudes and views they had heard so far from administration officials and congressmen. Even though President Reagan's aides, senators and members of Congress keep reiterating their commitments to Israel and its security, delegation members received the impression that the administration is not withdrawing its support of the Saudi plan, and that the interests of these two countries will remain intertwined, at least in the near future.

Head of the delegation, Moshe Arens, tried to alleviate the impression generated by his statement in favor of the Saudi plan. At a meeting with Jewish leaders in Washington, he explained that from time to time slips of the tongue are made that one does not wish to repeat.

The Knesset members are to meet today with U.S. media representatives and will be interviewed on the morning programs of the bigger networks.

HA'ARETZ: BRITAIN CONSIDERS CUTTING PLO TIES

TA130626 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 13 Nov 81 p 2

[Report by Britain-based correspondent Yosi Melman]

[Excerpts] London, 12 November (special for HA'ARETZ) -- Britain may cut its ties with the PLO, our correspondent has learned from diplomatic sources in London who were reacting to the unprecedented attack by the PLO on the British leaders.

A British official told HA'ARETZ: "The remarks made today [by PLO spokesman in Damascus] are like driving a knife through our back. We have for a year now been trying to hold a dialogue with the PLO. This has greatly harmed our relations with Israel, which hit an all-time low. And lo and behold, this is the gratitude we earn from this organization." The British Foreign Office refuses to react officially to the PLO statements.

POST REPORTS BURG TO MEET WITH KREISKY

TA130721 Jerusalem POST in English 13 Nov 81 pp 1, 2

[Report by Asher Wallfish]

[Text] Interior Minister Yosef Burg will see Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky in Vienna next week. Burg, a fortnight ago, persuaded Prime Minister Menahem Begin to overrule the objections of Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir to such a meeting.

Burg will be in Austria on an Israel bonds mission.

Another minister, Deputy Prime Minister Simha Ehrlich, agreed two months ago to forego a planned meeting with Kreisky at Shamir's insistence after Kreisky made a sharp attack on Israel and Begin in an interview with the Paris left-wing weekly NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR.

A few days after that interview, the Dresden-born and Berlin educated Burg told an Austrian reporter that he could do something to improve relations between the two countries if only he met Kreisky tete-a-tete and spoke with him in German.

Burg sent a message to Kreisky through mutual Jewish acquaintances that he would be glad if a meeting could be arranged when he was next in Vienna. Kreisky, who reportedly was delighted, replied that he would receive the Israeli.

The ambassador in Vienna, Yisakhar Ben-Ya'aqov, learned of this, and cabled Jerusalem explaining the problems which Burg's initiative to improve bilateral relations could cause. Shamir, after studying the problem, concluded that the Burg initiative amounted to self-abasement, especially as Kreisky had never recanted his views.

Burg rejected Shamir's opinion and appealed to Begin.

The Jerusalem POST was unable to discover last night what prompted Begin to agree to Burg's plea, which he did two weeks ago.

Normally, when a visiting Israeli minister calls on a head of state, the resident ambassador accompanies him. It is now not clear whether Ben-Ya'aqov will go.

Officials in Jerusalem believed the meeting would enable Kreisky to say that Burg's visit proves Israelis want to exchange views with him, and that his door is always open to Israeli leaders. They expect Kreisky to try to differentiate between Begin and other ministers.

Another official told the POST that a meeting between Ehrlich and Kreisky would have had major political significance, whereas a meeting with Burg will fall into a less important category. "Burg stands out as a conversationalist rather than a negotiator," the official said.

The official also noted that Kreisky, who was recently ill, has made no further pronouncements about Israel since his NOUVEL OBSERVATERU interview. He has recently carried out a crackdown against PLO activities inside Austria and has denied entry to known PLO members, the POST was told.

Kreisky publicly censured PLO Leader Yasir 'Arafat when he expressed joy publicly over the assassination in Cairo of Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat, a personal friend of Kreisky's.

'LARGE-SCALE' EXERCISE TESTS IDF DEFENSE

TA120738 Jerusalem POST in English 12 Nov 81 p 2

[Text] A large-scale IDF exercise involving armour, infantry, paratroops, artillery and engineering forces held somewhere in Israel this week ended yesterday, the IDF spokesman announced.

The exercise came at the end of a lengthy training period, and among the maneuvers practised was a defence against a surprise enemy attack.

During the maneuver, reserve units were called in to strengthen the defence lines for a short period of time, a tactic adopted after the lesson of the Yom Kippur War. Some of the troops were airlifted to an airbase close to the battle zone to test the speed in which they could be integrated into the defence line. Other troops practised gearing up at emergency storage depots to determine the length of time it would take them to reach the front and participate in the fighting.

POLL: STRATEGIC COOPERATION GAINS PUBLIC SUPPORT

TA110850 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 11 Nov 81 p 3

[Pori Poll]

[Text] The proposal for strategic-military cooperation between Israel and the United States has gained appreciable support from the Israeli public. About 50 percent of the total population supports strategic cooperation with the United States in comparison with about one-third who are opposed to it. This emerges from the Pori Institute's nation-wide public opinion poll conducted at the request of HA'ARETZ.

Of those asked, 49.5 percent believe the proposed strategic cooperation with the United States would be good for Israel because "it would produce long term security benefits," in comparison with 30.8 percent who believe that strategic cooperation would be bad for Israel because the "security benefit would not equal the restrictions imposed on Israel's freedom of action."

The remaining 19.7 percent had no views one way or the other.

The poll covered a representative sample of 1,200 men and women who were given personal interviews in their homes throughout the country.

LIBYA

LIBYA CHALLENGES HAIG TO SUPPORT 'ALLEGATIONS'

LD130210 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 0015 GMT 13 Nov 81

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig announced in a most impertinent manner that the Jamahiriyah might be behind yesterday's alleged assassination attempt on the U.S. charge d'affaires in Paris. The U.S. secretary of state made this allegation before the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee yesterday.

A responsible source at the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison described Haig's accusation of the Jamahiriyah being behind the assassination attempt as another link in the feverish campaign of terrorism which is led by the United States against the Great al-Fatih Revolution and its historical leadership.

The source added that this accusation affirms the United States' unbridled imagination in fabricating accusations and imagining alleged actions as being carried out by the Jamahiriyah through the world. Such imagination can be expected only from children who are miles away from responsibility.

The source said that this allegation confirms the continuous and intentional attempt of the U.S. administration to misinform the U.S. public and the U.S. Senate by giving false information about matters outside Libya which has repeatedly stated its keeness on building bood relations with the American people. The source said that Jamahiriyah people who have decided to confront U.S. aggression and terrorism in defense of its land and territorial waters could not resort to assassination as a political means, which the U.S. administration has long experience with through the CIA.

The People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison challenges General Haig to produce one single piece of evidence to support his unfounded allegations.

JANA EDITOR COMMENTS ON CHAD DEVELOPMENTS

LD130932 Tripoli JANA in English 0807 GMT 13 Nov 81

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Tripoli, 13 Nov (JANA) -- President Goukouni Queddei, president of the Chadian national government, in a press conference here last night [as received], accused Sudan of interfering in Chad's internal affairs by backing Hissein Habre's forces in the battles which have been raging in eastern Chad for the last 48 hours.

The French news agency said that Chadian president affirmed that some Sudanese elements infiltrated Habre's northern forces and took part in those battles.

President Goukouni revealed the intervention of the Sudanese forces in the battles alongside Habre's forces against the government forces, while the Libyan Arab forces withdrew from all the above mentioned areas in eastern Chad after they have accomplished their historic and humanitarian role in realizing and consolidating freedom and peace in Chad. This role was undertaken in response to the legitimate Chadian national government, and as soon as the Libyan forces completed their withdrawal from those areas, the security situation collapsed and the flames of war erupted between the government forces on the one side, and the Sudanese and Habre's forces on the other side.

JANA's political editor commented on this swift development of events:

"It has been confirmed for the world, after it was confirmed for the Chadian President Goukouni himself, that the Sudanese forces intervened in Chad after the withdrawal of Libyan Arab forces and the full and brave accomplishment of their historic role.

This proves the role of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution which strengthened the freedom of the Chadian people and restored peace and security to Chad, and Africa too.

Thus, all imperialism's pretexts have been exposed. [word indistinct] is opposed to Africa's freedom and is anti-Semitic, anti-Arab and anti-Islam. This hostility is shown through its deviousness, spreading of lies and the overturning of facts throughout the period of the presence of the Libyan Arab (?Armed) Forces in Chad to defend the freedom of the Chadian people who was crushed by the (?civil war and) were torn apart by the [word indistinct] imperialist plots, and whose country was looted by the enemies.

Our armed forces have achieved the goal of the Chadian people and responded to their aspirations and their needs and saved them from the long civil war. This was in response to the call of the Chadian Government and Frolinat [Chadian National Liberation] Front.

Today the Libyan Arab Armed Forces stand truly neutral and impartial towards all Chadian factions and will not side with one against another.

The world now bears witness to the importance and the effectiveness of the Libyan Arab forces and its practical role as the safety valve which secured the freedom of the Chadian people.

Now they have withdrawan from the eastern sector, the situation has suddenly deteriorated and the world began to appreciate the reality of the historic Libyan stand."

The political editor added: "The joint African peace keeping force should shoulder its full responsibility in confronting this invasion of Chad in which the Sudanese forces are taking part. The Jamahiriyah is pleased and proud to have fulfilled its role, and (?more so) in responding to President Goukouni's request to withdraw after it completely fulfilled its duty in a way highly appreciated by the whole world."

MAURITANIA

COMMENTARY VIEWS SAHARAN ISSUE, AID TO MOROCCO

AB101649 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 10 Nov 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] The efforts of the world community in general and those of the OAU and the UN in particular today are centered on the search for a solution to the Saharan problem, a problem which preoccupies all countries in the subregion. Contacts have been made [word indistinct] in all the capitals concerned by this peace. The result of all these contacts is a common desire to find a definite solution to the painful Saharan conflict.

Each time our country has the opportunity to reiterate its stand on this problem, Mauritania will continue to do all in its power to contribute toward the maintenance of peace and harmony in northwest Africa. To this end, it reaffirms its support for the resolution on Western Sahara, adopted in Nairobi and which, if applied loyally, will constitute in our eyes an African means of settling the problem.

Therefore, in the face of this peace attempt, the attitude which should dominate today is that of laying down arms and beginning negotiations. Any other behavior would revive quarrels and plunge the region into war. Thus, any decision aimed at increasing military aid to Morocco would constitute an important factor in the aggravation of tension in the subregion and an encouragement to that country in its attempt to destabilize our country. In fact, Morocco has always used our country as a target and it is looking for pretexts to attack us. Providing it with arms is tantamount not only to supporting its acts against our country but also to seeking to internationalize the Saharan conflict and to disturb the procedure for an OAU settlement.

We must all work toward maintaining peace so that the efforts being made by the OAU will be successful.

BRIEFS

BORDERS CLOSED -- The IRAQI NEWS AGENCY correspondent in Nouakchott stated, based on reliable sources, that the borders between Mauritania and Senegal have been closed since Wednesday, 28 October. The correspondent added that the main highway linking Nouakchott to Dakar across the border state of Rosso has been closed for an undetermined period of time and without any reasons given. Furthermore, the correspondent affirmed that the closing of the highway between Mauritania and Senegal might lead to a crisis in food supplies since a great part of these supplies are transported via this highway to Mauritania. [Text] [Rabat AL-'ALAM in Arabic 31 Oct 81 p 1 WA]

SUDAN

VICE PRESIDENT DISCUSSES LIBYA 'DISAGREEMENT'

PM101307 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 7-13 Nov 81 pp 21-22

[AL-MAJALLAH interview with Sudanese Vice President Maj Gen 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib in Khartoum -- date not given]

[Excerpt] Khartoum -- [Question] What are the reasons for the sharp disagreement between Sudan and Libya?

[Answer] The disagreement is due to three main reasons:

1 -- The Libyan brothers accuse us of being (imperialist) agents and we accuse them of being agents of the Soviet Union. Indeed, we have evidence to prove that the Soviet Union is implementing some of its strategic plans in the area through Libya. As for the accusations leveled against us, they are unfounded.

2 -- A main point of disagreement lies in the eternal relations between the Sudanese and Egyptian peoples. Libya wants Sudan to sever these relations, irrespective of bonds of blood, kinship and joint struggle throughout thousands of years.

3 -- The situation in Chad. Libya has occupied Chad. We reject this occupation completely. Since 1978-79 we have participated in all conferences on Chad -- in Sabha, Bengazi, Khartoum and Lagos. Our declared stand at all these conferences was: no interference in Chad. The slogan we raised at all these conferences was a call for the creation of an atmosphere helping the disputing and warring Chadians to achieve conciliation and to govern themselves by themselves with the help of the African states. We were then surprised by the Libyan invasion and occupation of Chad and by Libya becoming a party to the dispute. This caused the situation throughout the area to explode.

Major General 'Umar added: "The recent incidents which brought the situation to the verge of war began with the recent African summit in Kenya where Libyan hostility crystallized. [Libyan Secretary of Foreign Affairs] 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki at the African summit conference threatened that the existing regime in Sudan would end in 3 months. On 12 October, Al-Qadhdhafi declared in Sabha that he had decided to overthrow Numayri and his authority. We then suddenly witnessed Libyan military concentrations on our border with Chad. Before these concentrations, we observed the preparations and the military facilities at (Abshi) — airfields, landing land (as we, the military, say) — Soviet, Cuban and East German advisers and building partners. What was all that for? We then got the answer in practice -- raids at the rate of at least one a day. We have statistics on the September and October losses in terms of lives and residential property, schools and water reservoirs. Children, women and men died. What were we to expect after all that?

Self-defense is a legitimate right. So we reinforced our forces on the western front and embarked on defense. We shot down some of their planes and they began to flee in all directions.

[Question] Libya has announced that it has withdrawn its armies from the border with Sudan. Is this true?

[Answer] We do not trust them. We take everything they say with extreme caution.

[Question] Why?

[Answer] Listen to their radios. They lie openly. They speak about a bloody clash between the Sudanese Army and the workers in the streets and about a bloody clash between the Sudanese Army and the Egyptian Army (where is the Egyptian Army?) and similar such lies. It is true that the Sudanese people scoff at the lies disseminated by the Libyan information media. However, such lies might deceive others. In any case, we are observing the situation with vigilance and caution. If they lean toward peace, we will lean toward it also.

Aden Alliance

[Question] What does the tripartite Libyan-Adeni-Ethiopian alliance signify as far as Sudan is concerned? What are the effects of this alliance on the tense situation in the Horn of Africa?

[Answer] We followed with definite concern the secret preparations and contacts between Libya, Yemen and Ethiopia following the conference among the heads of these three states. The conference discussed economic and political issues and adopted resolutions, some secret. The conference had specific targets against Sudan, Somalia, Oman and Egypt. A strategy for altering the features of the whole area with Soviet support was agreed upon. Therefore, we had to make our calculations and assessments to defend ourselves. The recent incidents on the Sudanese borders almost led to war. That was one of the results of the conference. Those incidents will not be the last. We put on record before the whole world that we are aware of the widespread and enormous conspiracy against Sudan. We are aware of the cat's-paws and we will never be remiss in defending our country.

[Question] Do you believe that Libya will once again provoke Sudan?

[Answer] Libya is still provoking Sudan and has not stopped provoking it. Libyan radio is still calling on Darfur Province to break away from Sudan and join Chad. What interest does Libya have in this? We have said that Libya dreams of establishing an empire. They have denied this. Why then are they instigating Sudanese provinces to break away and join Chad which they have occupied and regard as a stepping stone for realizing their foolish dream?

[Question] What are the latest developments in the situation on the borders?

[Answer] The situation calmed down only a few days ago. Libyan sorties have stopped. However, this calm will not deceive us and we are closely watching developments.

[Question] You said that Sudanese-Ethiopian relations have reached an excellent stage. What does Ethiopia's access to the Libyan-Adeni axis signify as far as Sudan is concerned?

[Answer] Relations are indeed excellent. In the wake of the tripartite [Libyan-Adeni-Ethiopian] summit conference, the Ethiopians emphasized to us that bilateral relations would not be affected by the results and resolutions of the tripartite conference or any other. We are dealing with them on this basis and they have not done anything to upset the tranquility of these relations. I have confidence in President Mengistu. He is a national leader and a man of principles. We have confidence in him.

What Is Demanded From the Summit

[Question] Some Arab politicians in the rejectionist front believe that As-Sadat's death signifies the beginning of the spread of the rejectionist current in the Arab homeland and provides a good opportunity for the Soviet Union to return to the area, particularly to Egypt and Sudan. What is your assessment of the Arab situation in the coming phase?

[Answer] What has happened in Egypt is a purely domestic affair and has no outside dimensions. Extremism and fanaticism led to the assassination of As-Sadat. The situation in Egypt is completely stable.

[Question] In your opinion, what urgent issue must top the agenda at the forthcoming Arab summit conference?

[Answer] Is there an issue more urgent than the discord which has afflicted the Arab nation and the division within its ranks? I believe that the urgent issue is to discuss the means that will unite the Arab nation to achieve its sublime aim. What happened at Camp David should not restrict our steps or paralyze our thinking. The important thing is for the Arabs to have the power to make the decision they want. Simply stopping at rejection is a major shortcoming that will eventually become a mere negative stand. Negative stands must be transformed into action. This is what I believe the forthcoming Arab summit conference should do, namely, unite the Arabs.

Maj Gen 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib, vice president and head of the State Security Department, concluded his statement by referring to what he said at the beginning of the interview: "I would like to emphasize that we seek peace and stability in our area in order to develop our country. We have never contemplated entering into war with others because the battle of internal construction is the area to which we must direct our attention. We are fully aware that war means the destruction of all our aspirations for stability and the development of our resources. Perhaps the Iraqi-Iranian war is a living example from which beneficial lessons can be deduced. However, if we inevitably have to defend our land, freedom and independence, we will wage a war into which we will have been pushed.

AFRO-ARAB COMMITTEE TO TRY AL-QADHDHAFI

JN121105 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1020 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] Khartoum, 12 Nov (SUNA) -- President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri has received, in his capacity as president of the Sudanese Socialist Union [SSU], a letter from the chairman of the international Arab-African committee for combating Al-Qadhdhafi's terrorism that declares the committee's intention to organize an international political trial of Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi early next year. In a letter to the SSU president, the committee requested that the trial be held in Khartoum.

In his letter, the committee chairman said Khartoum was chosen as the venue for this trial of Al-Qadhdhafi's policies and terrorism because of the major role played by Sudan, under the leadership of President Numayri, in the achievement of peace, stability and security in the African Continent, the Arab nation and the whole world.

In his capacity as president of the SSU, President Numayri agreed to hold this trial in Khartoum.

WESTERN SAHARA

DIPLOMAT CRITICIZES U.S. MILITARY VISIT

LD121320 Algiers APS in English 1202 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] Tehran, 12 Nov (APS) -- "The visit of the American military delegation in Western Sahara is a declaration of war from the United States to SADR and constitutes an obstacle to OAU in its efforts to find a political and peaceful solution to Western Sahara conflict." Mr Malainine Seddik, Polisario Front Politburo member, and SADR ambassador to Iran declared. Reacting to the recent visit of a high level American military delegation in Western Sahara and the U.S. commitment to supply the necessary military assistance to Hassan II regime to oppress the struggling people of Western Sahara, Mr Malainine declared to the Iranian press agency PARS that the Morocco king as well as the United States are responsible for the aggravation of tension and instability in the region and condemned the U.S. intervention in the local affairs of the Saharan people. Mr Malainine denied Morocco king's allegations according to which it would exist [as received] foreign elements siding with the Polisario Front. "This is an alibi from Rabat's king to obtain more arms from the United States," the Saharan ambassador added.

The American commitment, pointed out Mr Malainine, did not only constitute a blatant violation of a decision from all the international organizations on Western Sahara decolonization problem but also undermined OAU efforts to find a peaceful solution to this problem. SADR Government and the Polisario Front asked for an emergency meeting which will be held shortly by the OAU implementing committee to impose Morocco [as received] the respect of the application of the decision of negotiations with the Polisario Front and the withdrawal of its troops and the signature of a peace accord. Finally, Mr Malainine launched an appeal to all the African countries, the American people as well as the international public opinion to condemn the U.S. new policy in the northwest Africa which constitutes an imperialist action aiming at the domination of the peoples of the region.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

PRESIDENT CITES COUNTRY'S 'ECONOMIC CHAOS'

PM111411 Paris LE FIGARO in French 7-8 Nov 81 p 2

["Y.B." report]

[Text] President Dacko's regime sought to establish a multiparty regime in the Central African Republic. It was too early for this. This utopia was leading toward civil war. "So the people appealed to the army, which has the reputation of facing up to its responsibilities. The army halted the political crisis to restore peace and concord." Gen Andre Kolingba, president of the Central African Republic, who has just participated in the Paris French-African conference, is a reticent and apparently shy man who held his first press conference in Paris. He can not be induced to say one word more than he intends to say. With a rather fixed smile, he continued:

"The Army of the Central African Republic intends neither to take over power nor to retain it forever, but it must revive the national economy. This is why I want to meet in the near future with representatives of political parties as well as the 'nation's vital forces' to jointly seek a solution to the problems facing the country. The return to political life will take place gradually."

"We cannot rule out," General Kolingba added, "the formation of a national front eventually being considered." He then reiterated his appeal to "all the friends of his country" to help him lead the Central African Republic out of the "economic chaos" in which it has found itself. "It is our ambition," he stated, to turn our country into "a huge work site."

Thursday morning Gen Andre Kolingba explained to Francois Mitterrand that his country's situation is disastrous. However, he stated, France "is still willing to help us." Finally, while emphasizing that according to certain information, some units composed of his country's nationals and belonging to the Libyan Islamic Legion were presently close to the border of the Central African Republic, he asserted that these rumors have not been substantiated.

The "National Recovery Military Committee" believes that former Emperor Bokassa should be dealt with by the courts and does not rule out the possibility of Mr Ange Patasse exercising power. "He is a son of the country, a brother," General Kolingba stated, "and we need all our brothers at present."

CHAD

GOUKOUNI ACCUSES SUDAN OF AIDING HABRE FORCES

AB121809 Paris AFP in French 1754 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] Ndjamena, 12 Nov (AFP) -- Chad President Goukouni Oueddei has accused Sudan of interfering in the internal affairs of Chad by his support for the rebel forces of Hissein Habre in the 2-day war in eastern Chad.

In a press conference in Ndjamena on Thursday evening, the Chadian president said Sudanese elements had infiltrated into Hissein Habre's Northern Armed Forces [FAN].

Goukouni confirmed fighting was taking place in Adre, Guereda and Iriba (eastern Chad) but declined to say whether Adre was under FAN control.

Further Report

AB130805 Paris AFP in English 0732 GMT 13 Nov 81

[Text] Ndjamena, 12 Nov (AFP) -- Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei [words indistinct] in his country's internal affairs by supporting rebel forces in (?fighting the) past two days.

"Sudanese elements had infiltrated the rebel Armed Forces of the North (FAN), led by ex-Defense Minister Hissein Habre," Mr Goukouni told reporters here. He declined to confirm or deny reports that FAN forces had captured Adre, but said that fighting had broken out at Adre, Guereda, and Irida.

Mr Goukouni also ruled out all possibility of negotiations with Mr Habre, whom he called a traitor. "Habre is a criminal who has been condemned to death by the Chadian people," the president said.

Mr Goukouni remained vague about when the inter-African peace-keeping force would arrive in Chad to replace withdrawing Libyan troops. He said first he believed that the arrival of the force would be imminent, but later said that it will perhaps be here by the end of November.

He said that Tripoli had still not officially informed Chad about the withdrawal of Libyan forces from the country, which began last week. "We no longer have contact with the Libyan authorities who are upset by our request for a withdrawal," he said, adding that on the subject of Chad-Libya cooperation, "we will see in a month's time. It's premature to talk about that now."

He also said that the composition of the peace-keeping force had not been decided on and the necessary funds (?from the) Organization of African Unity (OAU) unit had not been available.

A delay in deploying the peace-keeping force favored those who wanted trouble to break out in Chad, he said.

Concerning the 24-hour delay in the Lagos conference of foreign ministers concerning the force, Mr Goukouni said that the will to create such a force was there but the means were not. Each country is to foot the bill for sending troops as part of the OAU peace-keeping force, he said. He added that the fact that each country had agreed to contribute troops at its own expense to participate in the force did not exclude the possibility of bilateral agreements with countries like France which had promised to support the OAU force.

HABRE FORCES CONTROL EASTERN TOWN OF ADRE

AB121547 Paris AFP in French 1520 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] Ndjamena, 12 Nov (AFP) -- The town of Adré in eastern Chad since this morning is being controlled by Hissein Habre's Northern Armed Forces (FAN), it is learned from reliable sources in Ndjamena.

It is recalled that since Wednesday fierce fighting has been going on at Adre, Iriba and Guereda between the troops of the FAN and those of the Revolutionary Democratic Committee (CDR) of Chadian Foreign Minister Acyl Ahmat.

Following the resumption of the fighting in eastern Chad, 1,000 soldiers of the Integrated National Army (ANI) stationed at Biltine were dispatched to Guereda and Iriba, it is also learned from reliable sources in the Chadian capital. These soldiers, who arrived in Guereda on Thursday, are meeting serious difficulties from Hissein Habre's soldiers because of insufficient military equipment, reliable sources stated.

GOUKOUNI 'WORRIED' ABOUT POSSIBLE DISTURBANCES

PM121319 Paris FRANCE-SOIRE in French 10 Nov 81 p 5

[Pascal Aubert dispatch]

[Excerpt] Ndjamena -- Chad President Goukouni Oueddei does not lie in a vacuum and, to be more specific, the vacuum left by the Libyan withdrawal which seems nearly complete in Ndjamena. At the presidential residence on Monday morning, the Chad head of state, clearly worried by the shillyshallying and laborious negotiations which are delaying the deployment of the inter-African peacekeeping force, did not rule out the possibility of disturbances breaking out.

"Hostility has already been demonstrated in the capital," he stated without wishing to accuse anybody. "This anxiety," he told us, "is also motivated by the arrival of arms and munitions in certain areas." For whose benefit? Goukouni did not want to say any more about that either.

FRENCH PAPER QUESTIONS LIBYAN TROOP WITHDRAWAL

AB091049 Paris AFP in French 0934 GMT 9 Nov 81

[Text] Paris, 9 Nov (AFP) -- The French newspaper, LE QUOTIDIEN (an opposition paper with moderate views), challenges the reports concerning the withdrawal of Libyan troops from Chad and says the soliders leaving Ndjamena are, in fact, being sent to the provinces.

The paper adds that there has been no official release from Tripoli nor any dispatch from the Libyan news agency JANA, confirming Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's order to his troops to leave Chad. It explains that the Libyans are only leaving Ndjamena (in proportions not yet well known) to strengthen their control over the center of the country at Dougua, Moussoro, Salal and Ati. These indications have been confirmed through the monitoring of radio messages, affirms the paper which does not specify the source of these reports.

The paper, moreover, believes that the Libyans' departure from Guereda, Iriba and Adre (localities close to the Sudanese border) was certainly not the result of a withdrawal order from Tripoli. The fact is that the Libyans left because they felt uncomfortable in this zone of great dissidence.

The paper is also of the opinion that the Libyans were incapable of waging a counter guerrilla war despite their very important air strike means and their American and Italian mercenaries as well as the large number of SAM-6's, some of which have providentially fallen into the hands of their opponents.

Finally, the paper affirms that Col Ngolobaye Allefi, who has been presented as the chief of staff of the Chadian Army, is merely the man who -- when he was subprefect of Bardai in Tibesti region -- caused the rebellion of the Toubous, the man who forced Goukouni's father, the spiritual leader of this tribe, to bow down to him and the man who used to whip his wives.

BENIN

LIBYA PRESENTS AIRCRAFT TO BENINESE AT CEREMONY

AB112037 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 11 Nov 81

[Text] The friendship between the peoples of Benin and Libya is getting stronger every day and the cooperation between both countries is at its peak.

In addition to the three Benin-Arab Libya companies established in our country, another example of the excellent ties between the two countries materialized last Monday when Brother Mustafa 'Abd (Sayta) presented an ultramodern Falcon-50 aircraft to Benin as a donation from the Arab Libyan people to the Beninese revolutionary people.

Present at the presentation ceremony were the ministers of foreign affairs and cooperation, transport and communications and members of the Central Committee of the Benin People's Revolution Party.

Mr 'Abd (Sayta) said the plane will contribute to bringing the Beninese and Libyan peoples closer and will facilitate the contact between the two countries with a view to more quickly and efficiently harmonizing our revolutionary action.

For Comrade Simon Ogouma, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, the ceremony demonstrates the friendship existing between our two leaders. After expressing Benin's happiness over receiving the present, the minister highly appreciated the perfect, modern features of the aircraft which will always shine in the sky to glorify the Beninese and Arab Libyan revolutions.

The technical features of the plane are: speed -- 900 kilometers per hour; capacity -- 13 persons including the 3-member crew; nonstop flight range -- 9 hours; cost -- $12 million, that is, about 3 billion CFA francs. Finally, it must be said that the aircraft is equipped with a color radar and does not need any assistance to take off or touch down.

GAMBIA

DIOUF ARRIVES IN BANJUL, DISCUSSES CONFEDERATION

AB121629 Paris AFP in French 1550 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] Banjul, 12 Nov (AFP) -- Senegalese President Abdou Diouf stated in Banjul that the plans for the setting up of a confederation between Gambia and Senegal are only a stage for what both countries want to achieve. The Senegalese head of state, who arrived in Banjul on Thursday on a friendly visit, pointed out at a meeting held in the Gambian capital that the similarities between the peoples of Senegal and Gambia will facilitate their confederation plans. President Diouf, who is on his first visit to Gambia since last 30 July's aborted coup, also expressed satisfaction with the popular welcome given him with the participation of Gambian opposition parties.

JAWARA APPOINTS MBUP MINISTER OF INTERIOR

AB101944 Paris AFP in French 1820 GMT 10 Nov 81

[Text] Banjul, 10 Nov (AFP) -- Major Abdulay Mbup, inspector general of the police and security forces and commander of the field force (Gambia's armed force), was named interior minister on Tuesday by Gambian chief of state Sir Dawda Jawara. Major Mbup, who led the loyalist forces at the time of the attempted coup d'etat in Gambia on 30 July, was also made a deputy by the Gambian chief of state, who has the constitutional power to name five members to parliament. The same constitution stipulates that to be a member of the government one must be a member of parliament.

GHANA

PRESIDENT LIMANN ADDRESSES PARLIAMENT 6 NOV

AB061330 Accra Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Address by Ghanaian President Hilla Limann to the reconvened session of parliament in Accra on 6 November -- live]

[Excerpts] Your Excellency the Vice President, Honorable Mr Speaker, My Lord Chief Justice, honorable leaders of political parties, honorable ministers and members of parliament, honorable chairman and members of the Council of State, excellencies members of the diplomatic corps, Niimei [chiefs of the Ga traditional area], Nananom [chiefs of the Akan traditional area], Manina [chiefs of the northern region] and elders, distinguished ladies and gentlemen and fellow citizens: It is my greatest pleasure and honor to welcome Mr Speaker and the honorable members back from the recess which marked the end of the second session of the parliament of the Third Republic. I hope that the honorable members have put the 3-month recess to profitable use, renewed contact with their constituencies, explained policy measures to the sovereign electorate and also taken the much needed rest they so richly deserved. Mr Speaker, we warmly congratulate you all for your contributions to our successful practice of parliamentary democracy during the past 2 uneasy years.

I wish to express the profound gratitude of my administration to you, Mr Speaker and honorable members, for the successful enactment of several bills into law, notably the investment code and the cocoa marketing board bill. It was gratifying to note that the spirit of cooperation I initiated during the first year was maintained and usefully applied whenever necessary during your last session. In registering appreciation for this, I exhort you to pursue that spirit of flexibility which is so vital for the smooth functioning of parliament everywhere.

Mr Speaker, I present this state-of-the-nation address with more hope and confidence than in September 1979 in our ability to put our own house in order, resuscitate our economy and rebuild our country. We can even say that there is a brighter future now than when we first convened in uncertainties, darkening clouds and gloom. This optimism springs from the concrete policy measures taken during the past 2 years which have restored peace at home and regenerated an ever increasing sum of good will for us abroad. The good will missions and personal contacts we have made in Africa, Europe and Asia during the last years have also greatly helped to dispel certain unfounded fears about us as a people and thus greatly brightened our present and future prospects. We have demonstrated that our country is well endowed with natural resources which, when effectively developed and carefully exploited, should restore our self-respect and dignity and thus make Ghana envied again by many less richly endowed countries. Our relatively more developed human resources are acknowledged facts. However, this optimism and our national aspirations cannot be realized if we do not discard our complacency and apathy of the past decade. We must, therefore, continue to work hard and I exhort all our people, particularly those in positions of trust, to render selfless and devoted services to our fellow citizens and our country. We must retain our collective destiny in our own hands and should therefore all help to reshape our common future.

Mr Speaker, honorable members: Let us all move into this third year of the Third Republic determined to make it a year of real accountability, a year during which all of us will be judged by measurable performances and results and in the full realization that the ship of state riding on stormy seas needs to be constantly attended and skillfully steered rather than left to drift. Since Ghana thus belongs to all of us, the People's National Party [PNP] administration has accorded every citizen the opportunity to serve and help rescue our country for ourselves, for our youth and for posterity. [laughter]

Unfortunately, this approach seems to have been misunderstood and misused. If we hide our talents now that they are most needed, we cannot serve our country when such talents will not be needed anymore. Those of us in positions of trust and responsibility should not continue to demand only our rights and privileges while shirking our duties. In our renewed determination and struggle to revive our economy through increased productivity in all sectors of our society, all of us have a vital and positive role to play and I am confident that honorable members will continue to rise higher and higher in the challenging times ahead of all of us.

In the course of this third session, we shall celebrate the 25th anniversary of our independence [shouts of approval] which we have not yet lost. [laughter] One significance of this is that we have already attained the age of maturity as a nation and people and should therefore demonstrate to the world that the respect for human dignity and rule of law which we have chosen and firmly reestablished during the last 2 years of civilian rule are permanent features of our sovereign nationhood. The peace and stability which we have since restored and maintained should be jealously guarded and defended to enable us to recreate our economic recovery and stability.

Mr Speaker, I wish to avail myself of this opportunity to place on record my deepest appreciation to the chairman and members of the Council of State for their wise and invaluable counsel which has been a source of strength to me in the discharge of my dutues over the last 2 years. [shouts of approval] In particular, I commend the chairman and other elderly members of the Council of State whose untiring devotion to duty belies their ripe age and (?assertions) about the generation gap. [laughter]

I hope that we can all continue to count on their good advice, cooperation and moderating influence in our collective efforts to save mother Ghana.

Indeed, during the past year, their timely interventions greatly helped to avoid several major confrontations between sections of our society, including even the executives and the legislature themselves. [laughter] As elder statesmen and women, they have proved their relevance and worth in this respect, for which we are happy and grateful. I wish them continued success in their individual and collective endeavors.

Mr Speaker, I should like similarly to express my profound appreciation and grateful thanks to you and honorable members for the frank and sincere manner in which members of the legislative and executive arms of state have criticized one another without malice in the supreme and permanent interest of our country. [shouts of approval] This being one of the best features of the democratic way of life, we should not harbor or nurse personal grievances when we criticize or express different views in the national interest and for the general good, for, after all, none of us is endowed with infallibility or a monopoly of wisdom. [laughter]

Mr Speaker, I wish to depart from the normal presentation of the sessional address during which noted past achievements and future programs of all sectors of our socioeconomic development are outlined. On this occasion, I would like to devote the time at my disposal to only certain aspects of our national economy. I do assure members that programs for various sectors of our national development have been outlined in the printed version of this address which will be made available to them after this summary address.

Mr Speaker, during the past 2 years, I have tried to take every opportunity offered me to remind fellow Ghanaians of the very precarious nature of the economy we inherited in September 1979. I have never mixed my words about the fact that our economy has long faced serious problems arising out of a decade of mismanagement and gross misuse of our national resources. I have also always emphasized the need for concerted national effort in honest, devoted and selfless service, full accountability and high productivity from each and every citizen.

As a government, we have backed this exhortation with bold measures designed to turn round our economy and to uplift the standard of living for all Ghanaians. From the very beginning of this administration, we have taken positive measures toward injecting discipline into the nation's financial management. This has included efficient management of our import program which sought to reconcile the quantum of import licenses issued with the availability of foreign exchange resources. In addition to these measures and despite the great demand at home for goods imported with foreign exchange resources, we have also continued to pursue a policy of discharging our short term debt obligations. Mr Speaker, we have pursued this policy vigorously during the year under review and I am happy to state that this has increased confidence, credit-worthiness and respectability for Ghana within international financial circles. [shouts of approval]

One direct result of this was the substantial increase in the level of the export credit guarantee facilities granted to Ghana by the United Kingdom soon after my official visit to Britain. It is also worth mentioning that as a result of this good will, credit facilities, both institutional and private, contracted by government during the past 2 years total nearly 1.5 billion cedis. This is a major achievement when considered against the background of an earlier total economic blockade following some unwise policies pursued by previous governments of Ghana. Mr Speaker, it seems almost unbelievable now when attention is drawn to the fact that until the advent of civilian democratic rule, Ghana has had no national budget freely and openly debated upon since 1972.

In our previous budget statement, we have made definite efforts to reduce public expenditure by reordering our national priorities and suspending nonpriority projects. We have also made definite efforts to reduce waste in the public sector and to improve upon the efficiency of our public corporations. Our policy of rehabilitation, retraining and redirecting has revived a lot of machinery and equipment or brought [word indistinct] useful equipment that has been deteriorating or abandoned for lack of maintenance and services. The talents of our youth, which were being wasted, are now being reoriented toward useable skills to provide middle level technicians and other personnel.

Our successful renegotiation of the international cocoa agreement will, hopefully, go a long way toward salvaging the cocoa industry which was in serious difficulties due to instability on the international cocoa market and sharp falls in cocoa consumer prices. In addition, the enactment of the new cocoa marketing board act last August and the subsequent inauguration of the board has now set the scene for more vigorous activities in the cocoa industry which is still the main source of our foreign exchange earnings.

Mr Speaker and honorable members, the preparation and enactment of the new investment code act was vitally necessary for improving upon the investment climate of Ghana and for attracting investors into all areas of our economy. The new code has, therefore, filled a big vacuum in the vital area of the inflow of investment funds. For more than a decade, no concerted effort has been made to assess the full scope of the natural resources with which Ghana has been richly endowed. However, since assuming office, we have successfully (?rearranged) and catalogued most of these natural resources in line with the new investment climate created by the promulgation of the investment code act. The scene has therefore been set now for potential investors to enter into mutually benenficial projects and productive economic activities in Ghana.

Indeed, since the promulgation of that code, there have been an influx of enquiries by such investors. In our efforts to reactivate the mining industry, we have already succeeded in attracting some investors to start the Kibi bauxite project which has long been left dormant. [applause] We have also mobilized, so far, loans to the tune of $40 million for expanding the output of the Ashanti goldfields, while another $5 million has been procured for expanding the mines of the Ghana National Manganese Corporation.

In this connection, I may report that the mobilization plan which will enable the corporation to process [word indistinct] manganese carbonate into oxide will soon be commissioned. Similarly, we have reached agreement with some foreign banks to provide a loan of 15 million pounds for the rehabilitation of the timber industry and steps are being taken to reorganize the management for the honest and efficient utilization of this and other investment funds so that they do not go down the drain anymore.

In brief, international financial institutions are showing greater confidence in our economy in the belief that we shall continue to improve upon our management skills, capabilities and efficiency. We shall, therefore, not hesitate in pursuing our house-cleaning operations relentlessly. [applause]

Mr Speaker and honorable members, our 5-year development program drawn up on the basis of the visit of our (?people) throughout the country and laid before you since the last session contains the framework of our national economic recovery, reconstruction, growth and eventual takeoff. Our policy and that program enjoined by the Constitution will certainly create the necessary climate for local initiative, foreign investment and numerous job openings for our people, not only for earning their living but also for developing their innate skills. It will also yield inestimable [word indistinct] for us and friendly foreign investors.

The 2-year agricultural program I launched in my first sessional address for arousing the awareness of our people to produce more food and thus reduce our overdependence on imported foodstuffs have received positive responses throughout Ghana [applause] in both our urban centers and our rural areas which have now become vibrant with productive agricultural activities despite the unusual unreliable weather conditions. During the year under review, we have had a bumper fish harvest and also greatly increased poultry in our fields and backyard gardens in our urban centers and should confidently [words indistinct] but for unpredictable and uncontrollable weather conditions. [applause]

Howbeit, the cultivation of maize, cassava, millet, Guinea corn, yams and other staple foodstuffs this year have far exceeded that of last year. [applause] In order to mobilize additional resources for the priority sectors of the economy, new monetary measures have been introduced to supplement the fiscal policy measures announced in the 1981-82 budget proposals. The highlights of the monetary measures include: 1. An upward revision of the interest rate structure to ensure proper pricing of capital, encourage more savings and thus mop up excess liquidity in the system; 2. Reduction in the cash ratio of commercial banks to enable them to channel more funds into the productive sectors of the economy; and 3. The institution by the Bank of Ghana of mandatory lending to the agricultural sector to increase the flow of funds to that sector. [applause]

These measures are meant to encourage the banks to mobilize investment funds for the priority sectors, especially the agricultural and export-oriented sectors of the economy. Government has also recently approved measures to streamline the [word indistinct] market and to promote more vigorous investment activities. To this end, we have approved plans for the establishment of a full-fledged stock market from which government will also benefit by relying on it for resources to finance development projects, thus reversing past trends of the over-reliance of government on the central bank for financing budget deficits.

As a first step, the Bank of Ghana is to set up a stock exchange company within the framework of the stock exchange act and the companies code [words indistinct] owned by the Bank of Ghana and licensed dealing members made up of financial institutions.

The objective of all these measures, Mr Speaker, is to arrest and reverse dangerous trends that have long disturbed the economy which we want to turn around towards recovery, growth and takeoff. But I must reemphasize the point that progress cannot be achieved without hard work, discipline, honest and selfless devotion to our duties.

I therefore hope we will all now rise to the level of the challenges facing our country so that we can realize the cherished improved standard of living and the better society we want under democratic civilian rule.

Mr Speaker, when I addressed the nation on our radio and television network on the eve of the second anniversary of the Third Republic, I highlighted a few home truths and realities facing us as a people. We have a duty as an elected government to inform the public frequently of the state of the nation in order to avoid the [word indistinct] germinated by the secretive, unaccountable and unresponsive governments of the past.

The political stability that we all want and open democracy -- democracy we now practice -- should be well-founded on economic recovery, growth and stability without which political stability will continue to elude us. We should, therefore, harbor no more illusions about the stark realities of our situation. Thus, despite the bold economic measures we have taken, the conomy is still plagued with low productivity in all sectors. The export sector, in particular, remains characterized by declining [word indistinct] of export commodities. The overall performance of the public sector is disappointing with a large number of public enterprises continuing to operate at very low levels and with subsidies.

Over the years, increasing budgetary deficits were financed mainly through borrowing at high interest rates, thus resulting in the present unhealthy expansion of the money supply and its harmful consequences of violent inflation. This situation has further been compounded by scarcity of goods on the commodity market due largely to the very low level at which our industries have long operated. The result has been the intensified rat race for survival and negative labor attitudes, moral values and low productivity at all levels. At the same time, the resources available to government for tackling these present problems have been dwindling sharply. Thus, the world cocoa consumer price dropped below 900 pounds per ton by 1980 while our crude oil import bill doubled during the same period and we had to spend over 40 percent of our foreign earnings on petroleum products alone.

At home, the smuggling of such vital exportable commodities as cocoa, timber, gold and diamonds as well as of goods imported with hard currency greatly increase. Overinvoicing and underinvoicing by importers and exporters alike, further erodes our capacity, our interest capacity for consumable goods and equipment for our national development program.

The most glaring and powerful consequences of all this has been a weak currency and an excessively liberal credit policy which places more emphasis on the commerical than on the productive sectors of the economy.

Mr Speaker, honorable members: These are the main features of our economy and as I have already indicated, the third year of the Third Republic should mark the turning point. We should all continue to work hard and serve Ghana honestly.

The diseases plaguing the economy are numerous and active and therefore [words indistinct] for our nation's survival. The need for difficult decisions and hard measures is not in doubt, but are we all prepared to accept and live with their consequences until the diseases have been eradicated? If we fear to help ourselves, we cannot save our country and our economy. As a nation, we must now resolve to desist from the past tactic of [words indistinct] but effective measures for solving our seemingly (?intractable) socioeconomic problems.

It is to this end, Mr Speaker, honorable members and fellow citizens, that my administration has been engaged in very serious negotiations with a number of international agencies with the view to finding curative measures for the economy, which will also attract assistance from financial institutions at home and abroad. Our primary concern in all these negotiations have been that Ghana's (?national) interest should be fully respected and protected. I therefore wish to assure you that whatever the final outcome of the delicate negotiations we are pursuing, our national interest will be safeguarded.

I have accordingly directed that the current negotiations with international organizations should be urgently pursued with a view to reaching agreements on a total policy package which will ensure optimal, desirable effects. However, I must reemphasize that the problems facing the economy are so active and pressing that we are more than ever before convinced that with and without international assistance, drastic measures have to be adopted since our salvation lies in our own hands and through our own efforts, toil and sweat. Whatever the nature and form of external assistance to our nation, it is in the extreme interest of our national economy to pursue adequately appropriate measures to solve these current problems. In the interim, we are taking some measures now to arrest some of the undesirable trends in settling battered sections of the economy. Thus, in consultation with the new cocoa marketing board, we have decided to increase the producer price of cocoa from 120 cedis to 350 cedis per load of 30 kilos. This only 30 kilos, 30 kilos [words indistinct]. This measure has been taken in order to stimulate increased cocoa productive activities and to substantially curb the spate of smuggling. The measure will also enable cocoa farmers to meet their rising production costs resulting particularly from the recent wage increases.

To further safeguard the interest of cocoa farmers in the future, I have already directed the new cocoa marketing board to evolve a new system for adjustment of the producer prices of cocoa in relation to its world consumer price. We shall also closely monitor such other factors facting the cocoa industry as the overhead and running expenses of the cocoa marketing board itself. We hope that these positive measures will be reciprocated by cocoa farmers through production and output expansion and in discouraging the high percentage of smuggling and other abuses that harm the development of the industry and suck the life blood of our national economy.

Mr Speaker, in addition to the increase in the producer price of cocoa, the producer price of coffee will also be increased from 210 cedis to 500 cedis per load of 63 kilos and the producer price of shea nut from 110 cedis to 400 cedis per load of 62 kilos.

Mr Speaker and honorable members, I want to draw very careful attention to the different weight being used. The one case is 30 kilos, that is cocoa. The other case is 63 kilos, that is coffee and the third case is 62 kilos, that is shea nut.

These increases are intended to promote production and increase export earnings for importing manufactured goods for our vital needs. As I have also said on many occasions, we must diversify and expand our other sources of foreign exchange earnings. The production and exploitation of these two commodities, that is coffee and shea nut, which come under the pay bill should therefore be greatly stepped up. Once again, it is our entire hope that these increases will step up production and also minimize the smuggling of cocoa, coffee and shea nut across our borders.

Mr Speaker and honorable members, in the past, the tendency has always been that [words indistinct] every commodity raised, whenever the prices of cocoa or the minimum wage was increased. I therefore wish to avail myself of this august forum to appeal to all our nationals that the cocoa producer price increase which I have just announced should not be used as a pretext to make such price increases this time. Already, the economy is disabled by the problem of continuous and extensive price increases without discussions, thus placing goods beyond the reach of the majority of our people.

My administration considers this to be unfair and against our policy of the equitable distribution of our national wealth and social justice. I have, therefore, directed the ministers of the interior and trade to collaborate in updating all existing legislations on prices. I wish, however, to reiterate my previous appeals to the general public to supplement government's efforts in controlling prices by refusing to buy (?extensively) overpriced goods. As I have often said, we must not leave to others what we can do ourselves. That is one of the ways of taking our destiny into our own hands. Since the People's National Party administration takes its roots from the rural folk and the ordinary worker, we shall protect their interests and ensure a (?decent) standard of living for all Ghanaians.

Mr Speaker, honorable members, as a long term measure toward reducing budgetary deficit, I have directed that every careful way of [words indistinct] of all government projects should be made and our prices rearranged. I have also directed that the 1981-82 government expenditure level indicated in the budget should be reduced by 10 percent. All boards and corporations under subvention are, therefore, being restructured to reduce our current expenditures by that proportion apart from emoluments. We also aim at making substantial cuts by reexamining expenditure on maintenance, fringe benefits and traveling abroad. For example, I have already directed that for Christmas celebrations, public funds should not be spent on printing cards for officials in ministries, departments and public corporations. This ban includes my own office. Any head of corporation who ignores these directives will be [words indistinct]. As the saying goes, little drops of water make the mighty ocean.

Also heads of government agencies and boards of corporations have been directed to submit to the director of budget specific [word indistinct] under their control from which these savings or cuts will be made. Agencies failing to submit their monthly returns will automatically have their total estimates reduced by 10 percent. All government offices are also now required to submit monthly returns of expenditures to the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning. Furthermore, they are to submit up-to-date nominal rolls of their staff. The expenditure returns and the nominal rolls will be carefully scrutinized and the information applied into the quarterly budgetary allocations shall be [word indistinct] of the current financial year. The comptroller and accountant general have, therefore, been instructed to obtain from the budget division of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning definite evidence of compliance with these directives by individual agencies before releasing their respective funds for the subsequent quarter's expenditure.

As a further measure to ensure the accuracy of the information provided in the nominal roll, periodic checks will be conducted by the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning and appropriate punitive measures taken against malpractices. Many countries faced with budgetary difficulties have often laid off large numbers of public servants. In fact, we have also experienced this under previous governments. [applause] However, the People's National Party's administration has resisted this rather negative policy. [cheers] Nonetheless, many government and quasigovernment agencies are definitely overmanned at present due to unwise policies pursued in the past. We have, therefore, decided to monitor closely recruitments to the public services. To this end, I have directed that any public agency wishing to fill vacancies in its establishment or to create new posts should seek approval from the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning. Approval will not be given unless it is shown that the work involved cannot be (?discharged) without serious detriment to the public interest and also cannot be performed by the redeployment of a serving member of staff. This decision applies to all government agencies without exception, but will not debar the promotion of serving officers to vacant posts in supervisory grade. Similarly, all boards of public corporations have been requested to monitor their recruitment policies in accordance with this new directive.

Mr Speaker and honorable members, in our efforts to (?carefully cut down) and monitor the use of our meager foreign exchange earnings, I have, since last July, had to cut down foreign travel by public officials even more drastically than ever before. That was partly why the size of our delegation to Australia for the Commonwealth conference and my own entourage for the good will visit to India and Switzerland had to be drastically reduced. [cheers] I have since also instructed the Bank of Ghana to extend this control to the private sector where excessive traveling abroad was taking place on the least pretext. Henceforth, the issue of foreign exchange to would-be travelers will be subjected to this control. Issuing foreign exchange without proper approval and prior authorization will attract severe sanctions on issuing officers. We cannot continue to pretend to the outside world that all is well with our economy at home, hence these drastic interim measures.

Mr Speaker and honorable members, these are some of the steps we have taken, aimed at reducing government expenditure. Other measures to increase revenue collection are also being pursued. Thus, to improve upon the efficiency of the Central Revenue, Customs and Excise Departments, steps have been taken to provide them with transport facilities. Training opportunities have also been increased for the personnel of both departments. Furthermore, we have sought assistance for consultants to augment the staff of the two departments from the Government of India. We hope that with these facilities, the efficiency of the two departments will be greatly improved.

As indicated in my last sessional address, we have stepped up our efforts, not only to improve upon revenue collection generally, but also to maximize tax collection from certain categories such as the self-employed occupational group. The Central Revenue Department has since, therefore, expanded its field collection activity. It has launched a nationwide tax survey meant to identify and register all persons in self-employed occupations. To improve upon tax collection from the categories of people who fall under the standard assessment regime, trade and economic sanctioning, as distinct from judiciary sanctions, have been introduced. The operators of commercial vehicles cannot purchase fuel ration coupons unless they produce evidence of income tax paid. Likewise, welders, repairers of air conditioners, refrigerators, and owners of metal manufacturing or maintenance workshops are now required to produce evidence of tax payments before they can purchase acetylene or oxygen from gas producers and distributors. [cheers]

These measures have started yielding positive results in tax collection from the self-employed group, whose contribution for the first 3 months of this financial year has already amounted to 45 percent of the total collection of that [word indistinct] during the entire 1980-81 financial year. The tax net is, therefore, being spread steadily, surely and effectively.

Mr Speaker and honorable members, we have also instituted measures to promote the exploitation of such nontraditional (?exports) as handicrafts, pineapples, aubergines and knocked down furniture. In this regard, we are taking steps to inaugurate the small scale industry's (?birth) which will promote the setting up of new industiral ventures in the rural areas to commercialize some of the numberous activities of our rural folks.

Steps will be taken to provide adequate training facilities in numerous fields so as to keep the youth interested in staying in our more salubrious countryside. The development of well-paid enterprises will be assisted through development credits and technical know-how thanks to the EEC (?micro) project programs and rural bank schemes.

Mr Speaker and honorable members, since smuggling continues to slow down our national economy, we have instituted special exercises along our borders to combat this social evil. I have directed the ministers of defense and interior to closely monitor and intensify these exercises. In addition, a draft bill for reestablishing the customs and preventive service legally will be laid before the house in the course of this session. [cheers] In the meantime, I wish to repeat the appeals I have been making throughout the country to our nationals living at our borders to be more vigilant and help prevent their livelihood from being taken away by a few greedy individuals.

In order to eliminate the evil practice of overinvoicing and underinvoicing, the Central Revenue Department, in conjunction with the Bank of Ghana, the Customs and Excise Department and the security agencies have commenced (?intense) investigations into activities of certain importers and exporters to unearth trade malpractices which lead to loss of revenue to the state. Severe penalties including legal sanctions will be imposed on affected companies when identified.

Mr Speaker and honorable members, government revenue, as you know, depends on the level of productivity and output. We shall, therefore, intensify our policy of providing assistance to industry to enable it to increase its output. Stringent measures are also being taken to ensure that state enterprises operate more efficiently and profitably than they have done in the past. Officials will be made fully accountable for their performances; indiscipline will not be tolerated. Boards of managements of corporations will be held responsible for any poor performance of their organizations. To ensure that state enterprises do not continue to be liabilities to taxpayers, such enterprises will no longer be given government subventions for recurrent expenditure.

Mr Speaker, nearly a quarter of a century ago, through self-denials, difficult and protracted struggle, the founding fathers of modern Ghana won for us our independence. Their vision did not stop at the mere freedom from colonial rule. They envisaged a prosperous and happy people; an industrious and proud nation. We of the present generation are, therefore, under the obligation to give honor to their names. For our own sake and expecially for the sake of the youth and children yet unborn, we have to work relentlessly for the ecnoomic emancipation of Ghana and, perhaps, the whole of Africa again, as was the case with our political independence. We must regain our self-respect, confidence and dignity. After more than a decade of wandering in the political wilderness, we have woefully failed to maintain even the infrastructures bequeathed to us by the First Republic. [cheers] The spirit that motivated the founding fathers of our nation seems to have completely deserted us. Patriotism appears to have lost its meaning to some of our people. We have become overcomplacent, making only demands and expecting others to do so for us what we can and should do for ourselves.

Mr Speaker and honorable members, what should I tell Osagyefo [Ghana's first president] when the times comes [laugh] or what account should Paa Willy [Council of State Chairman] render to Paa Grant [former politician] when they meet. This is a very sad commentary on the ways and ends to which we have applied our political independence and we should now work for a happier story to tell the founding fathers of our country at the appropriate time and in the fullness of time. The time has, therefore, now come for us to wake up and change the past trend of affairs. We must eschew complacency, laziness and indiscipline. We must rekindle patriotism and love for one's country, particularly in our teeming youth who deserve a better Ghana in the future than it is now. We must resuscitate our economy and rebuild the nation. It is important for all of us to always remember that no one else owes us a living. We have all contributed in various ways to bring Ghana to her knees. It is, therefore, our individual and collective duty to help Ghana rise again. We must all put our shoulders to the wheel and work relentlessly to rescue our motherland. Whatever assistance we may receive from our foreign friends should come only to supplement our own efforts and not as a substitute.

I assure the nation that government shall not shirk its responsibility nor fail to take bold decisions meant to provide solutions to our problems. Some of the decisions and measures are bound to be unpleasant in the short term. We therefore need the patience, understanding, support and good will of all sections of our society in pursuing these measures. We must all develop the proper appreciation of our national problems. I am confident that all these will be forthcoming abundantly.

Honorable Mr Speaker, honorable members, the summary of my third state of the nation address is done and I wish to express my profound gratitude to you, Mr Speaker and honorable members for this opportunity to outline the (?thinking) and efforts of my administration and in setting the tone for this session we have just commenced. I appeal to all honorable members to take time to study the full text of the printed address prepared in fulfillment of the constitutional provisions which requires me to report to you on the state of the nation.

Excellencies, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, fellow citizens. I thank all of you for your attention and patience. [applause]

Parliamentarians' Reactions

AB061936 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Text] Commenting on President Limann's sessional address to parliament today, the member for Ebgoro, Dr Ofori Atta, said the address avoided the burning issues of the cedi, the rate of inflation, unemployment and the explosive high cost of living. He said the only positive aspect of the address is the rise in the producer price of cocoa. Dr Ofori Atta pointed out, however, that it is a disappointment comparing with that of shea nut which was increased nearly threefold from 110 cedis to 400 cedis. Dr Ofori Atta said nothing less than 500 cedis is the right price that should be paid for a bag of 30 kilos of cocoa. He said what the president said about the economy amounts to a confirmation that his administration has no clues as to how to manage it. Apparently, the president is waiting for policies to be made for the country by international agencies. And so, for the time being, Ghana has to wait until the government and the agencies are agreed on the policy to revive the economy.

The member for South Tong, Dr Agamah, endorsed the view that the cocoa price is still inadequate. He said, with regard to the panic among the public of a major economic statement, what the president has done amounts to what he described as an incredible emptiness. Dr Limann's address is a frank admission of the failure of his government during the past 2 years.

Mr Kwaku Baah described the address as a bit disappointing. He said having focused so sharply on the serious economic problems facing the nation, one thought the president would have the courage to announce drastic measures to deal with these problems. Mr Baah said the proposals to solve the problems fell woefully below expectation.

The majority leader, Mr Fiti, said the address will guide members of parliament in their deliberations during the year. He said it calls on all Ghanaians to sit up and work harder than before. Mr Fiti hoped the economic measures announced would help to revive the economy.

LIBERIA

GOVERNMENT ADOPTS FINANCIAL RESTRICTIONS

AB080603 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1600 GMT 7 Nov 81

[Text] The Government of Liberia has taken a number of stringent measures aimed at arresting the deteriorating financial situation affecting the nation. A release from the executive mansion says the actions resulted from a meeting by the Executive Committee of the People's Redemption Council [PRC] in the cabinet yesterday focused on the economic situation and the efficient management of fiscal affairs in the country.

Consequently, the release said, in consultation with the council and cabinet, the head of state and chairman of the PRC council Samuel K. Doe has announced that the government will sell the Boeing 737 jet aircraft to enable it to settle outstanding debts and to purchase a smaller aircraft for the travel convenience of the Liberian leader and government delegations. He also announced the freezing of all government payments except salaries for 1 month effective 1 November 1981 and all foreign payments by the government for 3 months except for oil, debt service, foreign missions and government-sponsored students abroad.

The release said also, in order to effectively control expenditures by the government, the head of state has also banned the purchase of vehicles by government and public corporations for a period of 6 months. The release further said in addition, all government allotments to government agencies, particularly ministers, deputy and assistant ministers, heads of autonomous agencies as well as public corporations will be reduced by 50 percent beginning 1 December 1981.

However, allotments for essential operations will not be affected, the commander in chief said. The Liberian leader emphasized that the ban on foreign travel by the government officials funded by the central government will remain in force. In order to reduce or eliminate pay-roll (?tardiness),unauthorized printing of salary checks and all related frauds on pay-roll and salary check issuance, the head of state said that an announcement would be made shortly spelling out a number of administrative measures on the subject.

Also, a small committee under the chairmanship of the minister of finance and including the minister of planning and economic affairs as well as the minister of foreign affairs has been set up to urgently consider reducing the number and cost of our foreign missions. The committee is expected to report to the head of state by 11 November 1981.

The head of state also indicated that another committee to be chaired by the minister of planning and economic affairs will urgently review ways to improve the finances of major public corporations. The head of state also approved a recommendation to invite participation in suitable public corporations in order to reduce recurrent financial losses to government, the release concluded.

SENEGAL

PRESIDENT DISCUSSES FOREIGN, DOMESTIC ISSUES

PM091709 Paris LE MONDE in French 6 Nov 81 p 3

[Philippe Decraene interview with Senegal's President Abdou Diouf -- date; place not given]

[Text] [Question] Your prime minister, Babib Thiam, and you yourself are among the first African political leaders to have been received by the new president. Did your first contacts dispel your fears and gratify your hopes?

[Answer] The talks Senegalese Prime Minister Babib Thiam and I had with President Francois Mitterrand when he took office took place in an excellent atmosphere of sincere friendship and mutual understanding. We never had any fears before these contacts since, traditionally, French-Senegalese relations have always been very good. The accession to power of Francois Mitterrand and the Socialists was appropriately welcomed in Senegal by the Senegal Socialist Party and the government in power, which share with them the same choice of democratic socialism, social justice and defense of human freedoms and rights.

[Question] It is said that Senegal is in an exceptionally grave economic and financial impasse. Is this an alarmist analysis?

[Answer] Senegal's financial position, like that of most small countries, is a difficult one. It is exacerbated by internal factors and external causes. Internal factors include essentially the poor agricultural performance due to persistent drought which has considerably reduced our agricultural results and had an adverse impact on other economic sectors.

As for external causes, I would name the slowing down of economic activity in the countries which are Senegal's trading partners, the new oil shock in 1980 which increased our country's oil bill by 66 percent and the universal rise in interest rates on the money and financial markets in 1981. Finally, what increases the burden of debtor countries like Senegal is the rise in the dollar exchange rate on the exchange market against the African financial community franc.

Naturally, we have not stood by with arms folded. Measures have been taken within the framework of a plan for economic and financial restoration to stabilize the situation. We are, therefore, starting by helping and organizing ourselves. And our efforts are backed up by international financial aid.

[Question] Under these circumstances, is France rendering you all the aid you want?

[Answer] France is, indeed, rendering us aid in these circumstances. This aid is manifested in various forms. Thus, as an extension of the emergency aid given in 1980, the principle of further aid has been retained in particular with respect to financing the cost of the capital budget. These measures are in addition to the financing of various investment projects by the aid and cooperation fund and the central economic cooperation fund.

"Multiparty System Is Irreversible"

[Question] From Paris' standpoint, we consider it paradoxical that your extensive political opening up, and in particular the steps designed to institutionalize the multiparty system, should be accompanied by seriously tense relations with the Senegalese Democratic Party [PDS]. Can you explain why and how you have come to this?

[Answer] The case in which members of the PDS are involved is purely and simply an offense which is the business of the tribunals. Indeed, a man who states that he is an assistant of Abdoudlaye Wade, secretary general of the party in question, and a former party officer, has been arrested for fraud and abuse of power. His interrogation brought to light another affair relating to projects which, to say the least, tended to imperil our country's security and democratic institutions.

Since Senegal is a country governed by the law, justice follows its course without the executive having to intervene in any way. Nonetheless, taking into account the emotion generated among the public by this affair, we have informed the public of the facts which prompted the legal proceeding.

The multiparty system in Senegal is irreversible. Democracy is following its course. The PDS continues to hold meetings of its bodies and to inform the public via the media, even the official media.

[Question] After the second Senegalese military intervention in Banjul, there was talk of creating a Sene-Gambian state. How far has this project got right now? Is it giving rise to reservations? From whom?

[Answer] The two countries' governments and experts are continuing their work to implement a confederation of Senegal and Gambia, as Gambia's president, Sir Dawda Jawara, suggested. I can tell you that we are making satisfactory progress. It is normal that this project should encounter reservations from some people who are in any case a tiny minority. After all, we have complete democracy in both countries. In any event, a formula for consulting the two peoples will be found which will leave no room for improvisation.

SENEGAL-MALI COMMISSION ISSUES COMMUNIQUE

AB071225 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Joint commuique on the fifth session of the Senegal-Mali joint commission for cooperation held 3-6 November -- issued in Dakar on 6 November]

[Text] The fifth session of the Senegal-Mali joint commission for cooperation was held in Dakar from 3 to 6 November. The Malian delegation was led by the His Excellency Alioune Blondin Beye, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, and included top officials representing the departments concerned.

The Senegalese delegation, led by His Excellency Moustapha Niasse, minister of state for foreign affairs, included many top officials representing the departments concerned.

During their work, the two parties examined many subjects relating to their cooperation, within the framework of the agreements and conventions existing between them. They [word indistinct] defined actions which will help consolidate and revitalize the confident relations between them. As such, in the cultural and social fields, the two parties signed a protocol on cultural exchange for 1982-83. Under this agreement, the two countries will carry out various exchanges in culture, national education, higher education, information, human improvement, social affairs, youth and sports.

Concerning public health, the two parties decided to strengthen their cooperation in conformity with WHO aims to provide health care for all by the year 2000. Within this context, the Senegalese delegation submitted to the Malian party its protocol agreement, which will be signed later.

In the economic, scientific and cultural sectors, the two delegations thoroughly examined their cooperation in trade, customs, agriculture, stock breeding, transportation, posts and telecommunications and scientific and technical research. They expressed satisfaction with the desire shown here by the two governments to set up the appropriate means to broaden and strengthen this cooperation. They stressed the need to increase and diversify their trade.

The two delegations reaffirmed their interest in developing their cooperation in the transportation sector, which is basic in the rapprochement of the peoples. In this respect, they pledged to do everything to implement the road projects drawn up by the two countries under subregional cooperation. They expressed satisfaction with the technical and financial assistance which the FRG is willing to provide for the project. They also pledged to further improve the possibility of maximum utilization of the Dakar port by increasing the efficiency of the railroad network. They also pledged to concretize the political will clearly expressed by the two heads of state to increase the air traffic between the two countries. The two parties see the need to improve the transit procedures between Mali, Gambia and Senegal.

In industrial cooperation, the two parties pledged to support the setting up of a complementary industrial network between their countries and to implement various industrial and mining projects to this effect. To achieve this objective, they plan to hold meetings to identify and follow up such projects. Concerning stock breeding, agriculture, water and forestry and tourism, the two delegations decided to continue to revitalize the actions already initiated in these sectors.

On the other hand, with the aim of implementing the recommendations on technical cooperation between developing countries, the two delegation heads initiated a cooperation agreement on technical personnel.

At the end of their work, the two delegations expressed their satisfaction with the fraternal and friendly atmosphere and the mutual understanding during the activities of the fifth session of the Senegal-Mali joint commission for cooperation. They were satisfied with the excellent political relations and good neighborliness which mirror the strong desire of the two heads of state to stamp Senegalese-Malian relations with an exemplary character. They expressed their satisfaction with the permanent contact between officials of the two countries at all levels. In this regard, they welcomed the coming working visit of the Malian head of state to Dakar, in reply to the historic working visit which the Senegalese head of state paid to Mali immediately after he came to power.

In the name of the delegation which accompanied him and in his own name, Alioune Blondin Beye thanked the Government and the people of Senegal for the excellent measures taken to ensure the success of this session and also for the warm and fraternal welcome accorded the Malian delegation during its stay in Senegal.

The two delegations agreed to hold the next session of the joint commission in Bamako in 1982 at a date to be fixed later.

Issued in Dakar on 6 November 1981 for the Government of the Republic of Mali, His Excellency Alioune Blondin Beye, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation; for the Government of the Republic of Senegal, His Excellency Moustapha Niasse, minister of state for foreign affairs.

SOUTH AFRICA

BOTHA: U.S. TIES MARKED BY 'GREATER REALISM'

LD121744 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] The South African prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, has asked the 600 people attending the business leaders' conference in Cape Town to accept that the government is serious in its attempt to secure effective political participation for all South Africans. The meeting is a followup to a similar meeting held in Johannesburg 2 years ago.

Mr Botha said effective political participation is conditional only on maintaining sufficient stability to make possible healthy economic development and safeguarding the principle of effective decision-making. Mr Botha said he wanted to emphasize that the government's standpoint was still that the aim of constitutional reform should be pursued by creating structures so that every nation and population group will enjoy self-determination as regards its own interests and coresponsibility for common interests. The prime minister said that he was under the impression that there was agreement as to the direction in which South Africa should be moving with a process of constitutional reform, namely to make it possible for all South Africans to participate effectively, individually and within the group context in processes affecting their lives and expectations.

He said that those who ignored the fact that South Africa was an African state and who dictated stereotyped constitutional formulae derived from Western Europe and North America for the South African problems were not making any contribution. The South African Government was not steering toward a unitary state but a unitary society for all in South Africa. As far as South Africa is concerned consultations and negotiations were taking place with many leaders of self-governing and independent states and with community leaders in the country. Mr Botha said as regarded independent states and those on the threshold of independence the government had already announced its firm intentions and had taken steps to enter into negotiations with them on the creation of a confederation of states. It was by no means the aim to make those states subordinate to South Africa but to create inter-statal structures for orderly cooperation in respect of many common interests in the economic, social, technological and security spheres.

Mr Botha said South Africa today was better equipped in many respects than 2 years ago to resist the external forces aimed against her and to extend the hand of cooperation in order to help others to help themselves. He said South Africa's position had become considerably stronger as regards not only the economy, technology and energy supplies but also her military preparedness. South Africa's relations with the United States and some other countries were characterized by greater realism. The South African Government was determined to maintain military preparedness to ward off incursions against the country's borders and to preserve internal order while at the same time continuing with essential reforms in the economic, constitutional and social spheres.

Mr Botha released details of a regional development and industrial decentralization program which, when in full swing, would cost the state about 100 million rand -- that's about $104 million. It was hoped to set the plan in motion by 1 April next year. One of the proposals involved dividing the country into eight development regions.

On cooperation in southern Africa Mr Botha said: Multilateral committees, consisting of representatives of South Africa and the independent states of Transkei, Bophuthatswana and Venda, had been set upt.

Large-scale project aid was being given to other countries in southern Africa and 130 projects were in the process of planning, judging [as heard] and implementation. Project aid to these three independent states amounted to 83 million rand -- that's about $87 million -- this year and an additional 181.2 million rand -- that's $188 million -- was envisaged. Mr Botha said an addition 1,000 million rand -- $1,040 million -- had been set aside for the national states.

Turning to South-West Africa, Namibia, Mr Botha noted that a fresh attempt was being made to find a satisfactory solution with recognition of the role to be played by the internal parties. This did not mean that all the obstacles in the way of a settlement had been removed and he wanted to make it clear that there were still major and delicate negotiations in store for the parties involved.

AFP REPORTS ON ACQUISITION OF ENRICHED URANIUM

AB130740 Paris AFP in English 0724 GMT 13 Nov 81

[Text] Johannesburg, 13 Nov (AFP) -- South Africa will have enough enriched uranium by the end of next year to start operating the first reactor at its first nuclear powerplant at Koeberg, near Cape Town, informed sources said here Thursday.

Some 75 tons of uranium hexafluoride (UF-6) -- the initial fuel for the 900-megawatt reactor -- will be delivered about next April by the French firm Framatome, under a 1974 agreement, they said. The agreement, between Pretoria and Washington, said the U.S. would enrich the uranium which would then be converted into pellet form by Framtome for South Africa. But in 1978, the U.S. Congress banned the sale of enriched uranium to countries which, like South Africa, had not signed the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty. Pretoria did not sign because it did not want foreign inspectors looking at its laboratories.

Now South Africa has apparently discovered an alternative foreign source which is supplying the fuel for the Koeberg plant until the top secret plant at Valindabe, near Pretoria, can produce South Africa's own enriched uranium, the sources said.

ZIMBABWE

PATRIOTIC FRONT LEADER DISMISSES ONE-PARTY IDEA

AB121516 Lagos NAN in English 1457 GMT 12 Nov 81

[By Adewale Fatona]

[Text] Salisbury, 12 Nov (NAN) -- The leader of the Patriotic Front (PF) in Zimbabwe, Mr Joshua Nkomo, has dismissed the motion of a merger of his party with Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU-PF) to establish a one-party state in the country.

In an interview with the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) in Salisbury today, Mr Nkomo said the ZANU-PF had backed out of a merger plan between the two parties after the Lancaster House talks in 1979. The Patriotic Front leader said that his party had worked hard to bring about unity and negotiated the Patriotic Front Alliance with ZANU-PF for that purpose. They left us in London when we were discussing coming together, so we cannot be chasing people who came into unity and jumped out of it, he told NAN. He emphasized, however, that the Patriotic Front Alliance under which the two parties had co-operated still existed, saying: This is why we have remained calling ourselves PF and not ZAPU.

The Zimbabwean prime minister had spoken about unity between the two parties, in relation to the one-party issue, during his recent tour of Matabeleland, Mr Nkomo's political stronghold.